PUBLISHED MONTHLY.—PRICE 8 ANNAS.

THE INDIAN RAILWAY TRAVELLERS' GUIDE.
THE BEST AND MOST COMPLETED GUIDE IN INDIA.
Time and Fare Tables of all Indian Railways, Steam Boats, and Daks. Places of interest Inland and along the Coast. Postal and Telegraphic information, etc., etc.
COLOURED MAP OF INDIA.
"Bombay Gazette" Press, Fort, Bombay.

The Bombay Gazette.

No. 51,576—NEW SERIES. BOMBAY:—TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1899.

ESTABLISHED 1818.
PETER F. HEERING'S
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CHERRY BRANDY.
Sold by all respectable Wine Merchants.

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PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

DEPARTURES FOR EUROPE WITH LIBERTY TO CALL AT BRINDISI AND MALTA.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	SATURDAY, 2 P.M. 1899.
* CALEDONIA	7558	E. H. Gordon	1st April
M.L. CARTHAGE	5198	C. Gadd	8th "
* CLYDE	4099	A. Symons	15th "
M.L. CALEDONIA	7558	E. H. Gordon	22nd "
* SHANNON	4362	F. Cole	29th "
M.L. PENINSULAR	5287	W. Wheler	6th May.
* CLYDE	4099	A. Symons	13th "
M.L. EGYPT	7913	C. Langbourne	20th "
* SHANNON	4362	F. Cole	27th "
M.L. ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parfitt	3rd June.
* CLYDE	4099	A. Symons	10th "
M.L. CARTHAGE	5198	C. Gadd	17th "
* SHANNON	4362	F. Cole	24th "

The steamers marked M.L. proceed to Marseilles, Plymouth and London. Passengers for Brindisi transhipping at Port Said.

The Steamers marked * proceed to Aden only, and Passengers transhipp here for Brindisi, Marseilles, Plymouth or London.

HEAVY BAGGAGE must be sent to the BALLARD PIER on FRIDAY AFTERNOON the day previous to Sailing and CABIN BAGGAGE before 9 A.M., on SATURDAY. The attention of Passengers is called to the importance of having their Baggage Labelled with Port of Destination.

Tenders leave the Ballard Pier at noon on day of sailing. All Passengers must attend at that place by 11 a.m. for medical inspection by the Health Officer of the Port, and no one will be allowed on board the Mail Steamer unless so examined and conveyed thence in the Company's steam barges. Special attention is directed to these regulations, which are imperative under the Venice Convention.

Friends of passengers cannot go on board the Mail Steamer.

TO STRAITS, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

The Company's STEAMERS LEAVE BOMBAY FORTNIGHTLY, usually on TUESDAYS, taking Passengers for the STRAITS, CHINA, and JAPAN, and Return Tickets are issued on favourable terms.

Cargo Steamers are despatched to China at frequent intervals, calling at Ports en route.

For further particulars apply to

I. M. SHIELDS,
Superintendent, P. & O. S. N. Company.
Bombay, 15th March, 1899.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S.N. Co.

UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT.

TO TRIESTE DIRECT VIA ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID.

Steamer.	Captain	Tons	To sail on
IMPERATOR	L. Brelich	4,139	1st April 1899.
* AMPHITRITE	G. Costanzo	3,827	15th April 1899.
IMPERATRIX	G. Nicolich	4,212	1st May 1899.

* SALOON passage Rs. 375.

PASSAGE MONEY.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	Deck.
TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 600	Rs. 325	Rs. 150

TO TRIESTE, VIA KURRACHEE, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID.

Steamer.	Captain,	Tons.	To Sail on or about
TRIESTE	A. Mitis	5,005	7th April 1899.
MARIA VALERIE	A. Fellner	4,235	7th May 1899.
MARQUIS BACQUEHEM	C. Androvich	4,409	7th June 1899.

PASSAGE MONEY BY THIS ROUTE.

	Saloon.	Deck.
TO TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 315	Rs. 150

RETURN TICKETS TO TRIESTE AND VENICE.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.
Available for 6 months	Rs. 960	Rs. 575
Available for 12 months	" 1,060	" 625

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1st and 2nd Class Single and Return Tickets are issued via Trieste, the St. Gothards, and other Routes.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE MESSAGERIES MARITIMES CO.

The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Austrian Lloyd's and the Return Voyage by the Messageries Maritimes Co. at reduced fares.

This arrangement will prove of special advantage to passengers on three months' privilege leave.

Steamers leave TRIESTE for BOMBAY direct on the 3rd and those via KURRACHEE on the 23rd of each month.

Passengers to VENICE tranship at TRIESTE to another Company's steamer, which takes about 6 hours to cross the Gulf.

STEAM TO COLOMBO, PENANG, SINGAPORE, HONG-KONG, SHANGHAI, AND KOBE.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To sail on or about
VINDOBONA	C. Bellen	4,351	22nd April 1899.

For further particulars, Freight, Passage, &c., apply to

E. SCARPA, Agent,
Sassoon House, 52, Church Gate Street, Bombay, Mar. 23, 1899.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

TO MARSEILLES DIRECT.

VIA ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	To sail on Tuesday, 11 noon.
CALEDONIEN	4,232	Durrande	11th Apr. 1899
YARRA	4,255	X	9th May. 1899
SALAZIE	4,255	Negre	6th June 1899
LAOS	6,337	Flandin	4th July 1899
SYDNEY	4,232	Aubert	1st Aug. 1899
OCEANIEN	4,249	Soh Ritz	29th Aug. 1899.

Passengers are requested to ATTEND at the BALLARD PIER for the MEDICAL EXAMINATION at 10 A.M. All luggage, properly Addressed and Labelled, should be sent to the Steamer in the Stream the day before, or early on the morning of the day of Sailing.

TO COLOMBO, SINGAPORE, JAVA, SAIGON, TONQUIN, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

Vessel.	Tons.	Captain.	To sail on or about the
INDUS	6,357	Chevalier	6th April 1899.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S. N. Co.

The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Messageries Maritimes, and the return voyage by the Austrian Lloyd's at Reduced Fares. This arrangement will prove, in some cases, of special advantage to Passengers on three months' privilege leave.

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CALCUTTA,
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SLEEPING Car and CONTINENTAL RAILWAY TICKETS procured.
TEA PLANTERS, RAILWAY OFFICIALS, MISSIONARIES, booked at reduced rates.
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HANDBOOK giving details of Fares, &c., and of Sailings by all Lines sent FREE on application.
PASSENGERS met on arrival.
BAGGAGE shipped and cleared and Insurance effected covering all risks.
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CIRCULAR NOTES, BANK NOTES, DRAFTS, and SOVEREIGNS at current rates.

London Agents: GRINDLAY & CO.

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THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY. (LIMITED.)

Intend to despatch Steamers as follows:—

FOR KURRACHEE DIRECT.

S. S. "KOLA," 1,192 tons, on the 31st March, at 2 p. m., or later, on arrival of the English Mail.

FOR KURRACHEE AND COAST PORTS.

S. S. "DWARKA," 1,655 tons, on the 28th March, at 10 a.m., calling at Veraval, Mangrole, Porebunder and Cutch Mandvie. (Weather permitting.)

FOR KURRACHEE AND PERSIAN GULF.

S. S. "PATNA," 1,820 tons, at 10 a. m., on the 30th March, calling at Kurrachee, Muscat, Jask, Bunder Abbas, Linga, Bahrein, Bushire, Fao, Mahomerah and Busreh, in the foregoing or any order. (Weather permitting.)

FOR SEYCHELLES, MOMBASA AND ZANZIBAR.

S. S. "SIRDHANA," 2,729 tons, on or about 7th April, calling at Seychelles, Mombasa and Zanzibar in the foregoing or any order.

FOR ADEN, MOMBASA, ZANZIBAR AND LAMOO.

S. S. "CANARA," 1,902 tons, on or about 21st April.

FOR KARACHI, MOMBASA AND ZANZIBAR.

S. S. "LAWADA," 3,269 tons, on or about 11th April, calling at Karachi, Mombasa, and Zanzibar, in the foregoing or any order.

FOR COAST AND CALCUTTA.

S. S. "SECUNDRA," 2,610 tons, on or about 6th April.

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PASSENGERS and Cargo booked through from Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Bombay, or Rangoon via Singapore for all ports adjacent to the Various Gold Fields. Fortnightly departures from Singapore.

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MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co.,
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Bombay, 25th March, 1899.

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Lists of the LATEST SAILINGS, with Fares and full information as to berths available, furnished at once.

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THE following Steamer will SAIL—

Vessel.	Tons.	Captain.	To Sail
SAFARI	1,432	Christiansen	29th March.

Taking Cargo for LAMU, MOMBASSA, TANGA, DARE SALAM, ZANZIBAR, and all ports south of ZANZIBAR up to DELAGOA BAY; and Native passengers up to ZANZIBAR and GERMAN coast only.

This Line also issue first, second, third-class and deck through tickets to—

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in connection with the Union Line Mail Steamers from Delagoa Bay, once a month.

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F. HEYER, Agent,
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Bombay, 18th March, 1899.

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CONTRACT RATES furnished to large Importers, Clubs, Messes, &c., for clearance of goods.

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China, Japan, and Straits Settlements—Weekly.
South America—Monthly.
Aden—Weekly.

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The above Despatches are by Mail steamers, but shipments are effected by cargo steamers sailing constantly for Continental Ports at Greatly Reduced Rates.

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Of neglecting your health. Especially so, if you suffer from any NERVOUS DISEASE. You may be assured that your condition will not improve, and that you will go from bad to worse if you do not have your ailments properly attended to. If you suffer from Despondency, Loss of Energy, Premature Decay, Varicocele, Weakness, Brain Fag, Dimness of Sight, Blotches on the Skin, Nervousness, Loss of Memory, Noises in the Ears, Melancholy, Liver Complaints, or other internal disease. You have only to write to me for particulars of a SURE CURE for your malady. THOUSANDS OF SUFFERERS have benefitted by this means of cure, and the advice I have given them. Send addressed envelope, which must be plainly written, to HENRY DAVIS, ESQ., Copford Lodge, Chichester Place, Brighton, Sussex, England; and name this paper.

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SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS
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AND ALL MATERIALS AND IMPLEMENTS
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RAILWAYS, HOSPITALS, &C.

ALL GOODS are of Guaranteed Quality, nothing inferior is kept in Stock, and all Drugs and Medicinal and Chemical Preparations are up to the Standard laid down by the BRITISH PHARMACOPŒIA.

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EACH PACKET of these Cigarettes contains an Illustration of an Indian Regiment. The Illustrations will be continued until the whole Army has been given, forming a UNIQUE AND INTERESTING COLLECTION.

Each box contains 10 finest hand made Cigarettes without Paper.
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Next to Sir J. J. BENEVOLENT SCHOOL,
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11 monthly instalments of ..... Rs. 25 each 275

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Weldless Steel Tube Frame, 20in. from top of seat-tube to crank axle; Dunlop pneumatic tyres; block chain; leather gear case; rubber brake and pedals; invented handle-bar; gear 58½in. ..... Rs. 275
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THE NEW PREMIER CYCLE CO., LD.,
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" The Climax Motor, for Baird's Sight-feed Lubricators.

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J. W. HEPWORTH,
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ESTABLISHED 1836.

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"GENUINE HUSCHKE'S COLOGNE WATER"

To be had from all Chemists and Druggists in every part of India.

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SOLE DEALERS IN INDIA AND CEYLON.

PLEASE NOTE.—Specifics for Hydrocele and Asthma; immediate relief; permanent cure guaranteed or the price each Rs. 5 refunded even in most obstinate cases. Many cases promptly and successfully cured. Try once only. SPEEDY CURE for DIABETES is successful when all other remedies fail to produce the slightest effect. Safe and sure. Per bottle Rs. 3. "FEMALES' FRIEND"—a safe and reliable remedy for all female disorders and irregularities. Per bottle Rs. 3. Correspondence always treated strictly private. Apply to MANAGER, (B), V. C. Works, Baneghat, Bengal.

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PENSION VILLA FRANK,
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WELL FURNISHED ROOMS, excellent Table Baths, thermal and other, House stands on its own grounds. Within three minutes' walk of Kurhaus Moderate Prices. Arrangements made with Families, for Summer or Winter Season.

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ALL OF J. H. STEWARDS MANUFACTURE.

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The "AIDE-de-CAMP" Rs. 135, 250 &	270	0
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The "NEW REGULATION" Rs. 116 &	120	0
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THACKER'S "JOCKEY CLUB" Rs. 10 & 12		0

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The "VICEROY"	250	0
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Seward's Deer Stalking Telescope ...	235	0
The "LORD BURY"	95	0
POWERFUL STAND Telescope Rs. 30, 54 & 72		0

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EVENING CONCERT
IN
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TO-NIGHT TUESDAY, MARCH 28TH, AT 9 P.M.
ORCHESTRA 50 PERFORMERS.
CHORUS 75 VOICES.

By kind Permission of H. E. the GOVERNOR, and Lieut.-Colonel COLLETTE and the Officers KING'S SHROPSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY, MEMBERS of both Bands will assist the Society.

PART I.

1. Orchestral Symphony No. 5 in C. Minor Op. 67 Beethoven
   1. Allegro con brio (2/4 Minor.
   2. Andante con moto A Flat.
   3. Scherzo and trio Allegro C Minor and Major leading into.
   4. Finale—Allegro, return of trio, Allegro and final Presto C. Major
2. Cantata ..Schicksalslied Song of Destiny...Brahms.
   For Chorus and Orchestra.

INTERVAL OF TEN MINUTES.

PART II.

3. Cantata...The Revenge .....Villiers Stanford.
   Presto C. Major
   For Chorus and Orchestra.

Honorary Conductor—Lieut.-Colonel MARTIN.
Tickets can be obtained at Messrs. SOUNDY and Co.
Reserved Seats, Rs. 3. Admittance, Rs. 2.

ROYAL BOMBAY YACHT CLUB.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING will be held in the Club House, on WEDNESDAY, the 5th April, 1899, at 5-30 P.M.

WANTED FOR THE AGRA MUNICIPALITY, A COMPETENT MECHANICAL ENGINEER, to discharge the duties of Engineer and Secretary on a Salary of Rs. 600 a month rising by annual increments of Rs. 4 to Rs. 800.

Apply stating qualifications to the CHAIRMAN, Municipal Board, Agra.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

NOTICE is hereby given that in accordance with the rules passed at the General Meeting of the Chamber of Commerce held on 10th May, 1893, the Committee have APPOINTED TUESDAY, 4th April, 1899, for the purpose of BALLOTTING for the ELECTION of a Representative of the Chamber to be proposed to His Excellency the Governor in Council for nomination as an Additional Member of the Council of the Governor of Bombay for the purposes of making Laws and Regulations under the Indian Councils Act, 1892, in the place of Mr. H. Maculay who has retired on the expiry of his term of Office as Chairman of the Chamber.

The BALLOT-BOX will be OPEN at the Offices of the Chamber from 10 A.M. till 6 P.M. on the above day.

By Order of the Committee,
FREDERICK NOEL PATON,
Secretary.
Chamber of Commerce, Bombay 25th March, 1899.

THE STANDARD.
A SCOTTISH LIFE OFFICE of 72 years' standing, and one of the wealthiest and most progressive of the Provident Institutions of the United Kingdom.

THE FUNDS have increased FIFTY PER CENT. during the last 15 years, and now amount to over 8 MILLIONS. STERLING.

PREMIUMS MODERATE.
CONDITIONS LIBERAL.
F. A. PREVOST,
Secretary.
Bombay.

JUST UNPACKED.
A Variety of Silver-mounted Silk Umbrellas.
Rs. 18 each.
Hunting Whips or Crops with Thongs, Silver-mounted.
Rs. 10 each.
A large assortment of Best Walking Sticks, from Annas 8 to Rs. 10 each.
Ladies and Gentlemen's Riding and Driving Whips, Chowries, Riding Canes with White Horse Hair.

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GENERAL MERCHANTS, BOMBAY.

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MONEY PURSES,
CIGAR CASES
CIGARETTE CASES,
CARD CASES,
BLOTTERS,
DRESSING CASES,
STATUES,
TABLE ORNAMENTS.

BOLTON AND COMPANY,
IMPORTERS OF NOVELTIES
BOMBAY.

FURNITURE! FURNITURE!!

MESSRS. AHMED DEWJI & BROTHERS, High Class Furniture Manufacturers, Suppliers to NATIVE PRINCES and CHIEFS, have now the pleasure to inform their Constituents and the Public that they have removed to new and extensive Premises, Nos. 10 and 11, Old Cajl Street, Chuckla Road. They make and always have for immediate delivery all kinds of artistic furniture to European style and taste for Dining, Drawing, Office, and Bedrooms. Also a large and varied stock of Brass and Iron Bedsteads, Perambulators, Bentwood Furniture, Tapestries and Dinner, Dessert, and Toilet Sets &c., &c., of Standard Makers. Bungalows and Houses furnished on hire at short notice and moderate price.

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HAND-BOOK
OF
GIRAS AND GUARANTEE

BEING a Compilation of Decisions, &c., on Questions regarding Giras, wants, and other Acquired Rights with an Introductory Account of the Settlements in Kathiawar, Mahikantha and Rewakantha, together with Appendices and a Copious Index.

PRICE ..... Rs. 6.
Packing and Postage extra.
To be had at the "Bombay Gazette" Press, Bombay.

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The Scale for these Advertisements is as follows:—Not exceeding 3 lines, Re. 1, each succeeding line, As. 8. No Trade Advertisements are admitted under this Scale.

FOR SALE.—A Standard Indian sympathetic overstrung walnut square piano by Scheidmayer and Soehne, Stuttgart, the property of F. W. ENGLISH, Esq., gone to England. Price Rs. 600—MARCKS & Co., Limited, Bombay.

JOHN ROBERTS and Co., Ltd., Designers and Manufacturers of first class FURNITURE and INTERIOR FITTINGS, illustrated sheets free.

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STERLING DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS for Home Remittances receive 4 per cent. per annum.

FIXED DEPOSITS.—Receipts issued for 24 months at 5 cent., 12 months at 5 1-2 per cent., 9 months at 5 per cent., 6 months at 4 1-2 per cent. per annum.

Special rates are given for Short Terms Deposits during the busy season.

PRUDENTIAL OR PROVIDENT FUND.—Sums as small as Rs. 10 are received, carrying 5 per cent. interest, compounded half-yearly.

N. B.—The Bank will also transfer sums for Deposit or Credit in London, carrying interest from date of transfer in India.

Accounts are opened and Receipts issued in the name of "either or survivor."

CHEQUES, BILLS, HUNDIS AND CURRENCY NOTES of any Circle are collected and credited, free of charge, in any of the Interest Deposit Accounts.

CHEQUES, LOANS, BILLS, and PROMISSORY NOTES negotiated.

INVESTMENT ORDERS on London Stock Exchange under Code with London Branch.

Rules and Particulars obtainable at any office of the Bank.

By Order of the oard,
F. D STRANACK,
Manager.
Bombay, 1st January, 1899.

R. SCOTT & CO., M. R.

NOTICES.

THE ASSOCIATED EXCHANGE BANKS.

THE ASSOCIATED EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED on FRIDAY, SATURDAY and MONDAY the 31st instant, and 1st and 3rd proximo, being Public Holidays, under the "Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881."

GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.

NOTICE.

EXPRESS TRAINS BETWEEN BOMBAY, NERAL, KHANDALLA AND LANAULI FOR EASTER HOLIDAYS.

A SPECIAL EXPRESS TRAIN will run from Bombay to Lanauli on Thursday, 30th March and from Lanauli to Bombay on Tuesday, 4th April, 1899, to the following Time Bill for the conveyance of First and Second Class Passengers and for their Servants (in third class) only.

This train will only call at Neral and Khandalla.

DOWN TRAIN.	H. M.	UP TRAIN.	H. M.
THURSDAY, 30th March 1899.		TUESDAY, 4th April 1899.	
Victoria Terminus		Lanauli	D 7 15
Bombay	D 17 0	Khandalla	A 7 24
Neral	A 18 14	Do.	D 7 27
Do.	D 18 19	Neral	A 8 52
Khandalla	D 19 51	Do.	D 8 55
Do.	D 19 54	Victoria Terminus	
Lanauli	A 20 6	Bombay	A 10 10

Ordinary Fares will be charged for these Special Trains.

A. MUIRHEAD,
General Traffic Manager.

Bombay, the 25th of March, 1899.

LATHAM & Co.,

BANKERS AND ARMY AGENTS.
SHIPPING, FORWARDING, COMMISSION AND GENERAL AGENTS.
BOMBAY AND KURRACHEE.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and conducted free of charge and interest allowed.
FIXED DEPOSITS received at rates of interest to be obtained on application.
TELEGRAPHIC REMITTANCE AND REGULAR HOME PAYMENTS arranged at the best rate of exchange of the day. Client's ADDRESSES CODED free of charge.
SOVEREIGNS AND BANK NOTES bought and sold at the most favourable rates.
PAY AND PENSIONS collected without charge and without life certificates.
LOANS AND ADVANCES made on approved securities.
PACAGES forwarded to Europe and America by Eastern Express "at frequent and regular intervals thus offering the cheapest and best Express Service, before the public.
BAGGAGE AND CARGO shipped by "HOME EXPRESS," at law rates, and to parts of the World Reliable Agents in every Port.
PACKAGES arriving at Bombay and Kurrachee cleare and forwarded up-country with promptitude and economy.
Property of every description carefully warehoused and stored. Articles of Indian art and Manufacture received and packed securely for transit and forwarded and delivered at destination.
INSURANCE—Marine and Fire—effected at current rates.
Represented in London, Liverpool, and Paris by
GEO. W. WHEATLEY & Co.

QUICK ROUTE

THROUGH AMERICA.
THE SAN FRANCISCO OVERLAND ROUTE
THE PACIFIC MAIL S. S. Co.
OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL S. S. Co.
CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC AND CHICAGO AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAYS.

THE Fast and Magnificent Steamships of these Lines SAIL from HONGKONG via SHANGHAI and NAGASAKI through the famous Inland Sea of JAPAN, KOBE, YOKOHAMA and HONOLULU to SAN FRANCISCO. PASSENGERS selecting this route derive the benefit of the beautiful Scenery of the "Paradise of the Pacific" Layovers are granted at Honolulu enabling those who desire to stop and visit the volcano and other points of interest.

Via the Central Pacific, Union Pacific and Chicago and North Western Railway it requires but 4 1-2 days to cross the American Continent, through the finest scenery in the World. Solid vestibuled trains consisting of Pullman's Luxurious Double Drawing-room Sleeping Cars and Free Reclining Chair Cars from San Francisco to Chicago without change. It is the line selected by the United States Government to carry the fast mail; it is much shorter than any other, gives passengers the choice of lines from Chicago to all Eastern Cities and combines all the latest conveniences and luxuries, revolved in modern Railway travel.

For further information apply to—
WHITNEY BROTHERS & Co., Calcutta.
THOMAS COOK & SON, Bombay and Calcutta,
KING, KING & Co., Bombay, or
T. D. McKAY,
General Passenger Agents,
San Francisco Overland Route,
No. 4, Water Street,
Yokohama, Japan.

DISCOVERED AT LAST!
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DR. JOHN MARTIN HONIGBERGER'S
PLAGUE DROPS.
USE THIS AND DISCARD EVERYTHING.
PREPARED AND SOLD BY
J. J. VELLOZ,
Medical Practitioner, The Medical Hall, Nagpur, C. P.
PRICE Re. 1 per vial.

J. RATILAL & Co.,

TOBACCONISTS,
BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA.

SOLE AGENT IN INDIA, BURMAH AND CEYLON
FOR
LAMBERT AND BUTLER'S.
CIGARETTES AND TOBACCO SPECIALITIES.

TOBACCOS

Put up in ¼ lb. Patent Air-tight Tins.

JESSAMINE.
"LOG CABIN."
MAY BLOSSOM.
GOLDEN BIRDSEYE.
LILY OF THE VALLEY.
PRIZE MEDAL BIRDSEYE.
VIKING NAVY CUT (Full).
VIKING NAVY CUT (Medium).
FLAKED GOLD LEAF HONEY DEW.

CIGARETTES.

JESSAMINE. Put up in air-tight tins, containing 50 cigarettes, with a holder.
MAY BLOSSOM. Put up in air-tight tins, containing 50 cigarettes, with a holder.
NEEDLE POINT. Each packet containing 10 cigarettes, wrapped in foil with a nice picture.

AN ABSOLUTE GUARANTEE.
QUALITY AND CONDITION GUARANTEED.
Goods at any time found affected replaced at shortest notice.

All inquiries to be referred to

J. RATILAL & Co.,

Tobacconists,
BOMBAY.
BRANCH:
186, CANNING STREET, CALCUTTA.
HEAD OFFICE:
403, SHAIKH MEMON STREET, BOMBAY.

BOMBAY BANK AND STOCK LIST.

BANKS.

	Shares.	Amount.	Paid-up.	Last Half Yearly. Divid.	Cash Rate.
INDIAN BANKS.				Rs.	
Bank of Bombay	20,000	Rs. 500	Rs. all	10 p. c. } 1 bon. }	1,250
Bank of Bengal	40,000	00	all	10 pr. ct.	1,160
Bank of Madras	10,000	500	all	10 pr. ct.	1,150
Commercial	15,000	100	100	8 p.c.	107xd
Bank of India.	15,000		75		
EXCHANGE BANKS.					
Agra	1,00,000	£5	all	3 pr. ct.	89
Charter Bank	40,000	£20	£20	10 pr. ct.	£39½
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	80,000	dol. 125	all	£1-10-0	£37 1-2
National Bank of India	48,000	£25	£12½	8 pr. ct.	235

PRESS COMPANIES.

				Yearly	
Akbar	20	1,250	1,250	75	1,195
Albert Ginning Co.	100	500	all	18 pr. ct.	45
Albert (Kurtchee)	20	1,100	1 100	Rs 80	825
Bombay Nugger	167	1,000	1,000	dvd 14 x	125
City Press & Manfg. Co. Ld	550	250	250	25	275
Bombay Cotton Breuls & Cavendish Press Co., Ld.	1,000	125	125	Nil	105
Broach City Press Co., Ld	600	200	200	dvRs12½	210
Colaba	500	1,880	1,880	dvdRs15	315
East India	350	1,000	1,000	100	1,300
English Press and Manfg.	400	200	—	dvd Rs 8	81
Fort	150	8,500	500	22-4-80	891
French	300	500	500	dvdRs40	450xd
Harvey and Sabapathy	450	450	500	dvdRs30	165
Hingoli Press Co., Ld.	700	100	100	Rs15	155
Khangaum	249	450	450	Rs 60	495
Mahuva Press Co., Ld.	300	200	all	15 pr c	275
Mahimapure Cotton G. and P. Co., Ld.	300	500	500	53	70
Mercantile	600	125	125	dvd Rs 5	70
Motisull Co.	125	400	400	dvd Rs35	385
Munnar M	100	250	all	25	215
New Bezar	00	500	500	dvd Rs50	590
New Indian	00	125	125	Rs 15	180
Prince of Wales	120	500	0	30	350
Sabapathy (Bellary)	500	500	7	33	310x1
Saseoon	300	500	500	30	585
Sind and Punjab Co.	100	1,000	1,000	125	2,000xd
Sind	400	2,000	750	21	400xd
Steel's Woollen Mills	200	250	250	Nil.	75
Surattee Press Co., Ld.	37	200	all	12	21
Volkart		000		Rs75	10

MISCELLANEOUS.

				Half-yearly	
Alcock Ashdown	1,750	100	100	dvd Rs 5	160
Back Bay Baths	50	50	50	13	35
Badham Pile	5,000	100	100	12 pr ct	135
Bombay & Burma Trading Corporation	1,000	2,500	500	300	6,000
Do. New Issue.	500	375	625	75	1,505
Bombay Ice Mfg. Co., Ld.	1,250	100	100	dvc 4	69xd
Bombay Land and Building Co, Ld.	400	500	500	5 pr ct	50
Bombay Flour Mill	1,000	500	500	50	975
Deccan Paper Mills	1,000	500	500	5 pr ct.	217
Delhi and Northern India Flour Mills	1,500	200	200	dvdRs10	208
Delhi Cloth & General Mills Co., Ld.	2,500	250	250	9 p 15	230
Empire of India Life A. Co., Ld.	2,	500	50	—	55
Indian Guarantee Surety Ship Assn	5,000	00	10	10 pr. ct.	18
John Roberts & Co.	1,500	100	100	10 pr. ct.	190
Kemp & Co.	4,000	200	175	21	355
Kurrachee Landing	500	500	300	30	183
Larsks & Co., Ld.	4,000	100	100	dvdRs15	152
Napier Hotel	2,000	100	100	9 pr. ct.	25
NapierFoundry	1,000	100	300	—	60
Oriental Govt. Security Life Insurance	5,000	200	50	12 pr. ct.	120
Phillips & Co. Ld.	4,000	100	100	dvd Rs 6	58
Port Canning Co.	6,000	000	1,000	dvdRs22½	485
Spendy & Co.	2,000	100	100	—	5
Treacher & Co.	2,000	500	500	5	1,060
Thacker & Co.	1,500	100	100	Rs. 15	
Telephone Co.	2,200	251	100	Rs. 14	27 xd

SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANIES.

				Half yearly	
Ahmedabad Adv	700	1,000	000	Nil	
Alliance	1,500	1,100	all	—	
Anglo-Indian	1,345	—	30	Nil	40
Aurangabad S. & M. Co., Ld	618	1,000	1,000	60	345
Bellary S. & W Co., Ld. (Bellary)	871	60	al	9 per ct	1,000
Berar Manfg Co., Ld	2,750	550,000	200	Rs. 15	185xd
Bombay United	900	1,000	1,000	Nil	46)
Bombay Cotton Manfg. Co.	900	500	500	dvdRs.20	540
Bombay National Manfg. Co., Ld.	500	1,000	1,000	—	90
Britannia Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.5	425
Bombay Woollen Manfg.Co. Ltd	650	1,000	1,000	10 per ct.	1,900
Central India	1,000	500	500	dvdRs.45	1,900
China Mills Co. Ld.	800	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.50	625
City of Bombay Mills	800	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.50	825
Coimbatore S. and W	6,000	100	100	9 pr ct.	125
Connaught Mills	600	500	500	25	625×D
Colaba Land & Mills	4,000	700	—	Rs. 10	0
Coorla Mills	800	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.20	330
Currimbhoy Mill	900	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.50	460
David Mill	1,400	900	500	dvdRs.25	560
Dhulia Ginning and Pressing Co., Ld.	400	250	all	dvdRs.20	875
Dhuria Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	Nil	437½
Empress	3,100	500	500	Nil 10	259
Framjee Petit	1,250	1,000	1,000	Nil	340
Hindustan	875	1,000	1,000	25	445
Hingunghat Mills	700	500	500	40	430
Howard and Bullough	1,500	500	500	25	460
Hope Mills	500	1,000	1,000	30	670
Hyderabad	700	1,000	1,000	0	615×D
Imperial Cotton	900	500	500	Nil	470
Indian Manfg.	00	1,000	1 00	dvd 35	1,300
Indo-China Manufacturing Co., Ld	700	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.50	340
James Greaves	1,100	500	500	25	740
Jaffer Alli	600	500	500	dvdRs.20	625
Jamshedi Manufacturing Co.	1,800	250	250	dvdRs.7½	220
Jewraj Balloo	1,000	1,000	1,000	no dvd	170
Jubilee Mills Co., Ld.	843	1,000	1,000	20	650
Khandesh	750	1,500	000	dvdRs.30	370
Khangaum Manfg. Co.	400	250	250	65	805
Khatao Maconjee	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.50	810xd
Leopold	3,500	100	100	dvd Rs. 5	550
Lord Rosy Mfg	445	1,000	1,000	30	200
LukmidasSpinning & Weaving Co.	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.50	675
Madras United	350	1,000	1,000	dvRs.100	925
Maharkumee	600	1,000	1,000	Nil	2,350
Mahboob Shah Mills (Gulburga)	8,400	500	500	15 pr ct.	215
Manockjee Petit	4,00	1,000	1,000	dvd 70	—
Mohanlal K. Parekh G & Mfg Co, Ld., Amrsoti	300	100	115	dvdRs.10	2,260
Muscat	5,000	250	—	dvdRs. 5	92½
Morarji Goculdas	1,050	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.60	1,775
Myrore S. & M. Co., Ld	4,000	250	250	dvdRs.15	
Madura Mills	7,779	100	100	Nil	
National	500	1,000	1,000	Nil	pa 52
New Great Eastern	1,400	1,000	1,000	Rs. 20	285
Oriental	5,732	625	d 25	dvd Nil	175
Presidency Mills, Co.(Ld).	743	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs50	1,025
Queen Mills	800	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs40	735
Ripon Mills	800	1,000	1,000	Rs40	945
Saraswati Mills	1,250	500	500	Nil	580
Sassoon	1,500	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs50	700
Shahapore Mills	500	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs60	1,325
Soonderdas	750	1,000	1,000	Rs30	625
Southern India	1,080	500	500	Nil	210
Southern Maharatta	1,212	250	250	dv Rs 12½	330
Sun Mills, Ld.	1,200	250	250	Rs.15	200
Standard Mills Co.	1,600	500	500	15	295
Star of India	1,000	1,000	1,000	Nil	600
Swadeshi Mills	2,000	500	500	dvdRs.20	655
Sassoon and Allbless	3,000	500	6 9	dvdRs.15	365
Union Spinning and Manufacturing Co.	500	000	1,000	50	0
Union Mills Ld.	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.20	330
Venkatesh Lukhmidhunker Mill Co. Ld.	900	600	900	dvdRs40	410xd
Victoria Mills	600	1,000	1,000	Nil	2631
Western India	1,200	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.80	460
Wadhwan City Ginning Pressing & Manufacturing Co., Ld.	400	250	all	dvdRs.	5
Wadia Mills	1,000	000	1,000	nil	—

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 6h. 53m. Sun sets, 6h. 13m. High water, 0-4m., 11-57a. Low water, 5-34m., 5-49a.

Prize-distribution, Anjuman Hall, Hornby Road, by H. E. Lord Sandhurst, 5 p.m.

Bombay Philharmonic Society's Concert, Town Hall, 9 p.m.

Music at the Yacht Club, 5-45 p.m.

POLO.—There will be a game at 5 o'clock.

POSTAL NOTICE.—Mails for Linga and Bahrein, per extra s. s. Umballa, will be closed at the General Post Office, at 2 p.m., to-day.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—On Friday and Saturday, two capital entertainments were given by Miss Nellie Watson's Variety Company, the programme being full of novelties. An additional performance will be held at the Tivoli Theatre to-morrow (Wednesday) evening, when an interesting programme will be produced.

ALLEGED ROBBERY BY A NEW SERVANT.—Mr. I. Suckinan has made a report to the police that a servant, who had been in his employ only for a day, has absconded, taking with him a currency note for Rs. 50 and one for Rs. 10, of the Calcutta circle, from a cupboard in the bedroom. A search is being made for the absconding servant.

PRIZE-DISTRIBUTION.—H. E. Lord Sandhurst, G. C. I. E., Governor of Bombay, will open the Anjuman-i-Islam Karimiah Library and distribute prizes to the successful students of the Madrasa-i-Anjuman, this evening, at 5 o'clock, at the Anjuman Hall, Hornby Road. The ex-students of the Anjuman High School are courteously invited on the occasion.

THE LATE MR. A. S. DUSTOOR CAMDIN.—The third day's funeral obsequies in connection with the death of Mr. Ardasir Sorabjee Dustoor Camdin were performed at his residence in the Fort, on Saturday last, when a sum of Rs. 11,108 was subscribed for charitable and benevolent purposes. Of this amount, Rs. 6,000 were given from the estate of the deceased gentleman, and Rs. 3,000 by his friend, Sir Dinshaw Manockjee Petit, Bart.

RASH DRIVING.—At the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, before Mr. W. Webb, Constable Porrett charged Soorji Damji, a coachman, with rash driving. Last night, at 9 o'clock, while the accused was driving a male phaeton on the Chuckla Road, he brushed up against an old woman, who was sleeping on the road. The accused then drove on at full gallop, and did not stop, though called upon by a police sepoy to do so. A fine of Rs. 15 was inflicted.

BURNT WHILE COOKING.—Parbuttee, a Hindu woman, aged twenty-one years, residing at Parel, Boiwada, sustained severe burns on her body on the17th instant. It appears that the woman was engaged in cooking, when her saree caught fire from the fire-place and her clothes were soon ablaze. She sustained extensive burns all over her body. She was treated at home, and no report of the accident was made to the police. On Sunday, her condition grew worse, and she was removed to the J.J. Hospital, and the occurrence was then brought to the notice of the police.

TIRED OF LIFE.—A Coroner's inquiry was held, yesterday, at Nesbit Road, Mazagon, on view of the body of a Goanese widow, named Feliciano Lewis, aged forty years. The deceased resided with her son, who is a carriage examiner in the G. I. P. Railway. For some months past she had been suffering from cramps in her legs and arms, and was consequently tired of life. On Saturday afternoon, she went out and never returned home. On the following day her dead body was found floating in a well near St. Peter's Boys' School, Mazagon. The Jury returned a verdict of suicide.

MUSIC AT THE YACHT CLUB.—The Band of the 21st Bombay Infantry will play the following programme, under the direction of Bandmaster A. Mallandaine, at the Royal Bombay Yacht Club, this evening, at 5-45:—

March	With Flying Colours ... Unrath.
Fantastic Dance	Dodo ... Buck.
Selection	J. Lombardi ... Verti.
Valse	Grasstalkinder ... Fetras.
Selection Songs & Dances of Northern Europe	Kuhner
Polka	Tout a La Joie ... Fahrbach.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

FATALLY BURNT.—An inquiry was held, yesterday, at the J. J. Hospital, by Mr. Turner, the Coroner, regarding the death of Begum, a Mogul girl, aged 15 years. The deceased was the wife of a baker, and resided with her husband at 15th Lane, Kamatipura. On the morning of the 25th inst., she was engaged in cooking her meals, and there was a kerosine oil lamp burning near the fire-place. Suddenly she knocked down the lamp into the fire-place. This caused a sudden blaze, which set her clothes on fire, and she was extensively burnt all over her body. Her husband removed her to the J. J. Hospital, where her condition did not improve, and she died on Sunday. A verdict of accidental death in accordance with the above facts was returned by the Jury.

ALLEGED EMBEZZLEMENT BY A CUSTOMS CLERK.—Mudusudan Ragooba, a cashier in the firm of Messrs. Turner, Morrison and Co., at Custom House Road, has reported to the police that, on the 23rd instant, a Customs clerk, employed by the firm, was entrusted with Rs. 2,995-4-4 to pay into the Custom House. On the following day the clerk absented himself from the firm, and on making enquiries at the Customs House, it was discovered that the money had not been paid. They then made inquiries for the clerk, but his whereabouts could not be traced. The money consisted of two currency notes for Rs. 1,000 each, one for Rs. 500, and five for Rs. 50 each, The numbers of the notes are known. The name of the absconding man is Sowliaram Krishnaji Kadam. The matter is being investigated by the police.

SPREADING INFECTION.—At the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, before Mr. W. Webb, Third Presidency Magistrate, Inspector Barker prosecuted Balloo Siddoo, a Victoria driver, for having, on the 25th instant, at Lobar Street, negligently done an act which he knew to be likely to spread an infectious disease dangerous to life. It appeared from the evidence of Mr. Clark, of the Abkari Department, that on Sunday he saw the accused driving a boy in his victoria. Suspecting that there was something wrong with the boy, he asked the accused to stop, and inquired if the boy was unwell. The accused replied in the negative, but on examining the boy, Mr. Clark found that he was suffering from high fever, and had a bubo on the right groin. On further inquiry, it was ascertained that the boy was accused's own son, and that his daughter was lying insensible in the stable, suffering from plague. The accused pleaded guilty to the charge, and was fined Rs. 25.

PENALTY FOR RASH AND NEGLIGENT DRIVING.—Before Mr. P. H. Dastur, Fourth Presidency Magistrate, at the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, Inspector Gannon prosecuted Ismail Fattoo, a Mahomedan on a charge of pushing his hand-truck in a manner so rash and negligent as to endanger human life. About 3 o'clock, on the afternoon of the 25th instant, Dr. Hatch was driving in a carriage and pair along Bhendy Bazaar Road towards the J. J. Hospital. The accused was pushing a hand-truck along the road in the same direction. He was on the proper side of the road and was following a laden cart. Suddenly he turned the truck to the right and brought it in the middle of the road. Then he did evidently to go ahead of the labour cart, but did not care to look behind to see whether any gharry was coming. As a result of this piece of negligence, the truck came in collision with the carriage belonging to Dr. Hatch. The legs of the horses were injured, and the harness broke, resulting in a damage to the extent of Rs. 50. The accused denied the charge, and called a witness for the defence. The Magistrate convicted the accused, and sentenced him to pay a fine of Rs. 50. The whole amount of the fine was ordered to be paid to Dr. Hatch, as compensation for the damage done to his horses and harness.

SUICIDE UNDER FEVER DELIRIUM.—Mr. Allan F. Turner, the Coroner, held an inquiry, yesterday, at Byculla, regarding the death of Baba Rama, a mill labourer, aged thirty years. The deceased resided at Goozree Bazaar, about ten or twelve days ago deceased's wife, Parbuttee, was seized with fever and her husband was attending her. Two days after, the latter was attacked with fever, and although household remedies were tried, he got no better. The fever continued with increased severity and Baba became delirious. His wife remained beside his bed, watching him day and night. She sat near him until late at night on Sunday last, when being overpowered with sleep, she lay down and was soon fast asleep. When she awoke at 3 o'clock on the following morning she found the door of the room, which she had fastened before going to bed, open, and the deceased had disappeared. A search was made for him, but without any success, and eventually the police were informed. This morning the body of the deceased was found floating in the well in the compound of the Byculla Railway Station on the up side. There were no marks of violence on the body, which was much decomposed. His widow stated in evidence that he had no glandular swelling, neither had she had any. A verdict of suicide was recorded.

THEFT BY A GOVERNMENT HOUSE PUTTAWALLA.—At the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, Rungoo Ramji, a peon at the Government House, was charged by Inspector Cordeaux, before Mr. P. H. Dastur, Fourth Presidency Magistrate, with stealing Rs. 150 in cash, belonging to Luximon Crishnaji. The complainant is a coal boiler at the Government House, while the accused was a naik of peons at the same place, where he also boarded. About 9 p.m., on Saturday before last, complainant went to the Market, and returned home a little drunk. The accused followed him into the room and sat near him. Complainant opened his box to put on a new shirt, but before he could take out the shirt, he had to remove a cash box, which he placed on one side on the ground. The accused suddenly left, and a quarter of an hour after the complainant missed the cash box, which contained Rs 150. He made inquiries, and when the accused came back about an hour after, complainant questioned him about the box. He admitted having taken away the box, and brought it back broken open. On examining the contents, complainant discovered that out of Rs. 150, there had been left in it only Rs. 33. Complainant threatened to inform the jamedar, but on the accused promising to pay Rs. 30 and to pass a document for Rs. 70, he remained quiet. Accused failed to carry out the promise, and complainant eventually informed the jamedar, and the matter was reported to Risaldar Abdul Karrim, the native Aide-de-Camp to the Governor. The latter summoned the accused before him and questioned him about the money. Accused admitted the theft, and a report was made to Major Richard Owen, the Military Secretary, who made over the prisoner to the police. The accused was seen taking away the cash box by three witnesses all of whom were examined by the Magistrate. The accused denied the charge, and stated that he won the money in gambling. He, however, called no witnesses to support his statement. He was sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

THE NATIVE PRESS.

THE BOMBAY MILL INDUSTRY.

REFERRING to Sir George Cotton's speech at the last annual meeting of the Bombay Millowners' Association, the *Rast Goftar* states: The Bombay Mill-owners' Association is nothing if it is not true to its name and traditions. Under the guidance of Sir Goerge Cotton, whose versatile talents and many-sided energy and ability have brought him in the front rank of citizens, the Association has been zealously safeguarding the best interests of the mill industry of our city. The chief success of Sir George seems to lie in his optimistic propensites. He generally takes an encouraging and cheerful view of things, and directing his efforts in that vein, he seldom fails in the realization of his hopes and expectations. In his speech at the annual meeting he made a bold assertion, and he proved it up to hilt, that India cannot only hold her own against China and Japan as far as the mill industry is concerned, but that she can successfully compete with either or both of them under certain conditions. The prosperity of our city in a great measure depends upon the success of our mill-industry, and it is indeed very satisfactory to observe that the "Prince" of that industry should assure the country at large that competition, though it may necessitate on the part of the millowers an exercise of strict economy and skiful supervision, is not likely to deal a deathblow to the industry.

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE CROWE.

Some of the vernacular journals express much satisfaction at the appointment of the Hon. Mr. Crowe to act as a judge of the High Court. The *Rast Goftar* says: We unite our voice with that of the Poona public generally in expressing our satisfaction at the appointment of the Hon, Mr. Crowe to act as a puisne judge of the High Court. His amiable and kindly disposition has endeared him not only to the profession, but to all those who have come in contact with him. Those who have the pleasure of practising before him in the District always appreciate the unvarying courtesy which he displays to them, and which greatly aids the practioners in the discharge of their duties. To his learning, his sound knowledge of laws, and his large experience he adds a judicial mind, and unwearying industry, and a desire to do justice to all who come before him. We entirely concur with the sentiments expressed by the Poona Bar, and we have no doubt he is justly held in esteem and respect not only by the legal profession, but by all those who know him in private life. Mr. Crowe is in every way well qualified to occupy the exalted position of a judge of the High Court, and we sincerely congratulate him, and trust he may soon be confirmed.

DRAINS AND SEWERS IN BOMBAY.

The discussion on the report from the Municipal Commissioner, at the meeting of the Municipal Corporation, with regard to the sewers and the drains that have not been cleaned for the last five years was, according to the *Rast Goftar*, specially instructive. Our contemporary remarks: It is no doubt a matter for regret that the highly-paid establisment of our Municipality should be so careless as to allow drains and sewers in the city to remain uncleaned for such a long period, and stranger still that the necessity for additional manholes should be urged only when the Corporation demanded a report on quite a different matter, and as a justification for not having cleaned these sewers and drains. That shews an utter disregard of the interests of the city on the part of our highly-paid officers. Though the plague may be an accidental visitor, and as a matter of course carries away a goodly number of the inhabitants of the city, still who can say, what a fearful waste of human life is caused by the supineness and wanton neglect on the part of our Municipality.

THE SUBSOIL WATER SCHEME.

The *Gujerati* says it is a pity that, even in a city like Bombay, there are no competent persons to decide definitely, on carefully ascertained scientific data, if and to what extent subsoil water has increased in level, and to advise as to the drainage of that water. Our contemporary adds: There were some points on which the corporation were agreed, and they have recommended that the high level water drain should be perfected, the Love Grove out-let channel deepened and the silting of the storm reservoir removed. The corporation have also accepted Mr. Wacha's suggestion to have the question of subsoil water thoroughly sifted by an experienced sanitary engineer on an accurate and scientific basis. Mr. Hughes, the Sanitary Engineer of the Calcutta Municipality, has had to study the question in the Upper Provinces of India and Calcutta. He is about to retire, and it was resolved that the Commissioner should put himself in communication with him to ascertain whether his services would be available and at what remuneration. Those who are anxious to spend more than thirteen lakhs on a project based upon inadequate investigation with the delusive hope of at once stamping out plague will, no doubt, be dissatisfied with this decision. But as in other matters, so in sanitary questions careful inquiry is essentially necessary in the interests of sanitation itself even in times of plague.

The *Kaiser-i-Hind* has it: To the consideration of the present important question perhaps more than sufficient time has already been devoted. Yet what has been the result? What decisive conclusion has been arrived at? The last word has not yet been said and the crucial and all-important point of the question remains as yet unestablished. No convincing evidence has been brought forward to prove that the theory has any very accurate and indisputable hypothesis to stand upon. Would then the Corporation have evinced the fair common sense it is expected to possess had it also taken for granted the uncertain allegation without any convincing or satisfactory evidence? The Corporation can safely plead that a little tardiness in carrying out a very costly scheme in the absence of sufficiently convincing data is, if at all, an error in the right direction and on the side of safety. We are therefore glad that the Corporation has adopted the *via media* skilfully suggested by Mr. Wacha as the only sensible course in the existing circumstances. It remains to be earnestly desired that an experienced engineer like Mr. Hughes will, without any unnecessary delay suggest some satisfactory way in which the Corporation can extricate itself from what at present seems to be a hideous inextricable jungle of contradictory and conflicting evidence.

The "Indian Spectator" writes: The Municipal Corporation, we think, has decided wisely to take further expert opinion on the question of the drainage of subsoil water, before embarking on an expensive scheme. The present state of the finances of the Corporation is such that it would be highly reprehensible to incur a large expenditure without making sure that it would be wisely incurred.

SOFT, FAIR, DELICATE SKIN ensured to those who use ROWLANDS' KALYDOR, the most cooling, soothing, healing, and curative preparation ever made. It cures and heals cutaneous eruptions, prickly heat burns, stings of insects, removes freckles, tan, sunburn, redness and roughness, and imparts a matchless beauty to the complexion. Avoid imitations, and ask stores and chemists for ROWLANDS' KALYDOR.

ADVICE to Mothers!—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is perfectly harmless and pleasent to taste, it produces natural, quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes as bright as a button. It soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup is sold by Medicine dealers every where as is 1-3d per bottle.

THE WEATHER.

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 8 A. M., ON MONDAY, THE 27TH OF MARCH, 1899.

1. The barometric readings are corrected to Calcutta standard, reduced to the same temperature M° and also to the sea level and corrected to the constant gravity at Lat. 45.

2. The 2nd column under the head 'Wind' gives the average motion of the air in miles per hour during the past 14 hours, and is obtained by dividing the total number of miles of wind registered by an anemometer during the previous 24 hours by 24.

3. The temperatures given in the table are of the air in the shade or in a small shade with open sides and a thatched or straw roof. The maximum (max.) and minimum (min.) temperatures are the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours preceding 8 a.m.

4. The humidity is given as a percentage expressing rates of the actual amount of moisture in the air to the amount required to saturate it.

STATIONS.	Pressure, 8 A.M.	WIND. Direction.	WIND. Rate per hour.	TEMPERATUR INSHADE. Maximum of past 24 hours.	TEMPERATUR INSHADE. Minimum of past 24 hours.	Humidity, 8 A.M.	RAINFALL. Past 24 hours.	RAINFALL. Since 1st Nov. to date.	RAINFALL. Variation, 1st Nov. to date.
Lahore	29·862	W	l	96·6	73·1	43	...	0·70	−2·62
Sirsa	29·679	SW	3	104·8	67·6	20	...	0·31	−1·58
Delhi	29·682	W	3	101·7	76·5	20	...	1·40	−1·53
Agra	29·799	SW	4	105·5	74·9	3	...	0·80	−0·49
Cawnpore	29·672	NNE	3	103·9	69·1	46	...	0·60	...
Allahabad	29·653	WNW	3	102·1	69·8	34	...	1·11	−0·81
Jhansi	29·709	WNW	3	101·8	70·7	15	...	1·29	−0·21
Jacobabad	29·679

GRAND ATTRACTIONS.

TIVOLI THEATRE.

WEDNESDAY, 29TH MARCH,

NELIE WATSON'S

GRAND CARNIVAL

OF

NOVELTIES.

DANCES,

SONGS,

TRICKS, &c.,

See Wednesday for Programme.

Plan at SOUNDY & Co.'s.

CHIEDMAYER AND SOEHNE STUTTGART.

Are the only PIANOFORTES of that name, which have a WORLD-WIDE REPUTATION.

The best Piano for the Climate of India.

Have been in use in India over 50 years.

SOLE AGENTS IN BOMBAY:—

MARCKS AND CO., LIMITED.

DR. MISS KHAMBATTA, L. M. & S.

Consulting hours 9 A.M., to 4 P.M., daily.

SONA LODGE, PALLI HILL.

WARDEN & CO.,

BOMBAY AND KURRACHEE.

BASIL MISSION MANGALORE ROOF TILES,

"MINTON" PAVEMENT, DADO AND ORNAMENTAL TILES,

WHITE GLAZED TILES,

NINE ELMS PORTLAND CEMENT,

MARBLE PAVEMENT TILES AND SLABS.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUES, Working Drawings and Estimates furnished on Application.

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BOMBAY.

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CALCUTTA.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened free of charge for Commission, and interest at 2 per cent. per annum credited on 30th June and 31st December, when the minimum balance does not fall below Rs. 500. Currency Notes of all Circles and Demand Hundies payable in Bombay received without charge.

FIXED DEPOSITS received, subject to six and twelve months' notice of withdrawal at rates which can be ascertained on application.

HOME REMITTANCE ACCOUNTS opened and interest at 3 per cent. per annum allowed upon deposits of Rs. 500 and upwards.

REMITTANCES TO THE UNITED KINGDOM. Demand and Telegraphic, made at the current rates of Exchange, and addresses in connection with the latter registered Free of Charge through Messrs HENRY S. KING & CO., 65, Cornhill, London.

LONDON:

HENRY S. KING & CO.

GRINDLAY & CO., CALCUTTA,

BANKERS AND AGENTS.

SHIPPING DEPARTMENT.

BAGGAGE received and shipped, landed and forwarded or Stored.

PACKAGES and PARCELS forwarded to England and elsewhere.

PACKAGES from EUROPE Cleared through the Customs and Despatched. To avoid delay, the Shippers should be instructed to send to us direct the Bill of Lading and Invoice.

INSURANCES, Marine, Life, and Fire, effected with Offices of standing.

H. M. TROOPSHIPS.

Every assistance afforded to Officers proceeding to and from England.

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MESSRS. GRINDLAY & Co.

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WATCHES

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SUITABLE FOR PRESENTS,

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BANKERS, MERCHANTS, AND EAST INDIA AGENTS.

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TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "PULLICATE LONDON."

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INDENTS executed with care and promptitude.

PASSAGES booked by a Line of Steamers.

ALL AGENCY BUSINESS undertaken.

The representatives of WM. HUTCHINSON and Co., on RECEIPT of INTIMATION, Board Steamers from the East on their arrival at Plymouth, at Gravesend, or at the Docks, to take instructions of Clearing and Forwarding Baggage, &c.

CARLSBAD NATURAL MINERAL WATERS are used in the treatment of Diseases of the Liver when Patients are unable to visit the Spa.

THE NATURAL CARLSBAD SPRUDEL-SALT is an efficient diuretic, but as an aperient it should be taken before breakfast, in doses of from one to two teaspoonfuls dissolved in water.

A sample of the Salt in Powder free to Members of the Medical profession on application to—

STANLEY OAKES,

13-2, Government Place, Calcutta,

Wholesale Agent in India for

INGRAM & ROYLE, LD.,

London, Liverpool and Bristol.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 27.

UNDER Saturday evening's date we chronicled the latest news received for this column through Reuter, from the other side; and to-day the market on this side have been closed on account of the *Holi* holiday

BANK OF BENGAL.

THE following is the Statement of the Affairs of the Bank of Bengal, for the week ending 21st March, 1899, as compared with the Statement of 14th March, 1899:—

LIABILITIES.	March 14. Rs.	A.	P.	March 21. Rs.	A.	P.
Capital paid up	2,00,00,000	0	0	2,00,00,000	0	0
Reserve Fund	91,00,000	0	0	91,00,000	0	0
Public Deposits, &c.	1,85,43,605	2	9	1,80,35,035	13	8
Other Deposits, &c.	5,21,01,675	10	3	5,40,83,652	1	9
Bank Post Bills, &c.	3,65,242	6	9	5,12,809	3	5
Sundries	22,71,092	5	4	22,60,511	14	11
	Rs. 10,23,81,693	9	1	10,40,51,749	1	9

ASSETS.	Rs.	A.		Rs.	A.	P.
Government Securities	67,50,281	0	0	71,58,902	0	0
Other authorised investments.	72,47,893	0	0	72,91,305	8	0
Loans on Govt. and other Authorised Securities	2,21,41,919	4	6	2,23,75,157	14	10
Accounts of Credit do.	1,95,97,483	0	10	1,99,36,390	11	0
Bills Discounted, &c.	1,86,11,759	7	3	1,93,16,560	0	5
Balances with other Banks	5,37,590	3	6	5,62,465	9	0
Bullion	1,755	11	8	15	0	0
Dead Stock	12,94,438	5	11	12,95,426	4	5
Stamps	11,317	9	5	11,391	4	8
Sundries	16,13,513	14	6	16,17,500	11	6
Cash, &c., at Head Office	1,11,74,252	0	1	1,20,03,366	1	8
Do. at Branches	1,30,99,203	15	5	1,14,73,248	0	3
	Rs. 10,23,81,693	9	1	10,40,51,749	1	9

LIABILITIES.	Rs.	
Treasury Balance at Head Office	8,15,429	Inc.
Do. at Branches	12,83,478	Dec.
Other Deposits	19,81,689	Inc.
Post Bills	1,47,567	do.
ASSETS.		
Bank's Investments	4,52,030	Inc.
Loans	9,33,188	do.
Accounts of Credit	3,38,894	do.
Mercantile Bills	7,04,811	do.
Cash at Head Office	8,29,114	do.
Do at Branches	16,25,955	Dec.

BANK OF MADRAS.

Statement of the Affairs of the Bank of Madras for the week ending 18th March:—

LIABILITIES.	Rs.	a.	p.
Capital paid-up	60,00,000	0	0
Reserve Fund	30,00,000	0	0
Pub Dep at Hd Office Rs. 26,82,171 13 11 } Pub Dep at Branches Rs. 14,81,333 14 9 }	41,63,455	14	8
Other Dep at Head Office and Branches	203,56,695	3	9
Bank Post Bills, etc.	7,867	10	1
Sundries	7,69,683	14	9
Total	348,97,702	11	3
ASSETS.			
Government Securities	26,25,815	3	0
Other authorised Investments	9,64,929	14	0
Loans on Government and other authorised Securities	49,04,593	1	10
Accounts of credit on Government and other authorised Securities	53,94,612	7	10
Bills discounted and purchased	87,88,812	13	4
Balances with other Banks	13,37,298	8	8
Bullion	12,377	2	10
Dead stock	8,76,832	8	0
Stamps	11,387	5	8
Sundries	94,622	14	2
	250,06,271	15	4
Cash and Currency Notes at Head Office and Branches	98,91,433	11	11
Total	348,97,702	11	3

HIGH COURT.—MARCH 28.

Before the Honourable Mr. Justice CANDY.

For Judgment.

520-98—Bicknell M and M—Homee N A Wadia vs The Bengal Coal Co, Lt—Crawford B and Co.

Suits for hearing and final disposal.

Long Cause.

492-97—Thakordas D and Co—Ibrahimbhoy Ludhabhai Chatoo vs Bhundaloobhai Allarakhia—Sorabji and J. Part heard.

Before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice B. TYABJEE.

Suits for hearing and final disposal.

Long Causes.

365-98—Captain and V J A L. Antao vs Ardesir Byramjee Limbowalla and others—Payne G and S, Daphtary and F, and Captain and V. Part heard

149-98—Dikshit and D—Lakmidas Valjee and others vs Vallivahoo—Mansukhlal D and J. Part heard.

719-98—Little and Co—Esmuljee Cohrabjee Nagree vs Kalabhai Visram and another—Matuchai and J.

For further directions and costs on Commissioner's Report.

653-97—Tyabjee D and Co—The Hon'ble Basil Lang and another vs Mooljee Karsonjee—Sorabjee and J

To vary Commissioner's Report.

641-92—Tyabjee D and Co—Nathu Tulsidas and another vs Poonja Waljee and others—Little and Co and Payne G and S.

Long Causes.

740-98—F P Pavri—Girdhardas Ghanshawdas vs Syed Ebrahim bin Syed Mahomed and others—Wadia and G Ardeshir and D, and Little and Co.

410-98—Payne G and S—Jacob Elias Sassoon and others vs Nassurbhoy Caramsey and others—Dikshit and D, and K B Mehta.

Before the Honourable Mr Justice RUSSELL.

Suits for hearing and final disposal.

Short Causes.

538-98—Payne G and S—Jankibai vs Bugabai and others—M A Vakil.

634-93—Tyabjee D and Co—Meherally Maharaj vs Lady Janbai—Roughton and R.

663-98—In person—Oomaji Vajichand and others vs Hansaji Oomaji and others.

108-99—Framjee and D—Dipola Premjee Jairam vs Hansraj Parmanand—Thakurdas D C and S.

117-97—K P Baruchа—Dookhdas Balmookandas vs Chabildas, Ramdas—Magonlal and Co.

For Investigation of Pauperism.

12-97—In person—Hoosein Nassor vs Hurbai and others—K J Mantri.

15-99—In person—Jaisoda Bisoon Bamon vs Dwarka Pragand and others.

16-99—In person—Narrondas Chapsey vs Lilladhur Purshotum—M Virjee.

11-93—In person—Abdoolally Adamjee vs Bhasker Shivram and another—Janardhan and A.

13-99—In person—Sewjee Tejpal vs Ratansi Khairaj—Janardhan and A.

Long Causes.

331-98—Craigie L and O—Bai Mancekvahoo vs Karsondas Pragjee—Matubai and J. Part heard.

165-98—Crawford B and Co—Kara Laljee vs Dhunjee Rattonsey—Payne G and S.

626-97—M H Khan—Kalloosing Soosing and others vs Dhunji Rattonsey—Payne G and S.

515-98—B V N Kirtiker—Karsondas Narsi vs Memon Ismail Hajee Noor Mohomed—Magonlal and Co.

RAILWAY RETURNS.

INDIAN MIDLAND RAILWAY.

Week ending 18th March, 1899.

Description.	1899.	1898.	Inc. for the period.	Dec. for the period.	Aggregate Inc.	Aggregate Dec.
Miles Open ...	1,056	940	...	...	...	...
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Passengers,	51,238	42,250	11,989	...	45,250	...
Parcels, &c.	85,593	73,461	12,131	...	1,12,059	...
Goods ...						
Other earnings ...	6,293	4,152	2,141	...	2,357	...
Total for week	1,43,116	1,19,861	23,252	...	...	...
Aggregate ...	17,14,907	15,54,144	...	...	1,20,963	...

PALANPUR-DEESA RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 11th March 1899, on 17·36 Miles open.

	Coaching Traffic Receipts.	Merchandise and Mineral Traffic Receipts.	Other Earnings [estimated.]	Total Earnings.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Total traffic for the week	300	403	...	703
Or per mile of Railway	18	23	...	41
For previous 9 weeks of half-year.	2,810	3,290	12	6,112
Total for 10 weeks...	3,110	3,693	12	8,812
Comparison. Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	111	728	6	837
Per mile of Ry do.	6	42	...	48
Total to corresponding date do.	1,292	4,085	95	5,472

Decrease for the week Rs. 137
Increase to date ,, 1,340

G. I. P. RAILWAY.

THE following is the Statement of Traffic, Week ending 11th March, 1899.

	Coaching Traffic. Receipts.	Merchandize and Mineral Traffic. Receipts.	Other Earnings (Estimated)	Total Earnings.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Total ...	1,41,082	6,97,707	5,490	8,44,279
Corresponding week of last year. Open 1,491½ Miles.	...	...	...	6,39,438

Increase ..... Rs. 2,04,841

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

SIND.

DEATH.

RYAN—March 15, at Karachi, John Hubert Ryan, aged 33 years.

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

CREAGH—March 17, at Jhansi, the wife of Staff Sergeant C J Creagh, Commissariat Department, late Norfolk Regt, of a son.

DINWIDDIE—March 22, at Nagpur, the wife of R Dinwiddie, Bengal Nagpur Railway, of a son.

ROGERS—March 20, at Simla, the wife of H S Rogers, Royal Engineers, of a son.

RUSSELL—March 19, at Dhar, C I, the wife of Rev F H Russell, Canadian Mission, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

FRANK—FELDSTEIN—March 24, at Calcutta, William Frank, of Munich, Bavaria, to Miss Olga Feldstein, of New York, U.S.A.

DEATHS.

BACHMANN—March 23, at Meerut, Ernest Reginald Swanton Bachmann, of Mt Oswald, Murree, aged 42 years and 8 months.

DICKSON—March 17, at Roorkee, N-W P, of Dronchitis, Horace Lionel, dearly loved infant son of Lieut W E R Dickson, R E.

FOSTER—March 9, at Simla, Marjorie Agnes, the beloved child of Charles and Constance Foster, aged 1 year, 4 months and 9 days.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*** ALL communications intended for publication in our columns should be addressed to the Editor and not to any individual member of the staff.

The Bombay Gazette

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1899.

OUR old friend, ramie, has broken out again in England, and the technical papers have given it attention as though they had never heard before of failure in connection with it. It has even gone once more to the length of a public company, in the shape of the China Ramie and Trading Company, which has been formed to exploit the process of a Mr. Bennertz, a gentleman who has spent a considerable length of time in China. The prospectus has been circulated semi-privately, but its contents have filtered into the papers. Its capital is £100,000, a good portion of which, we understand, was subscribed in advance by Yorkshire manufacturers. This, of course, is a hopeful sign, though we have known of a score or two of men of this hard-headed class losing their money before this over equally hopeful inventions. Another good point, so far as it goes, is the guarantee of Mr. Bennertz to pay ten per cent. on the capital for three years from the date of the formation of his company. All the same, there is a certain risk about the thing, and, apart from the trade, few of the public have backed their belief in the future of ramie to the extent of putting their money into this venture. Mr. Bennertz has not patented his process of degumming the fibre, and he resolutely declines to give away his secret to any individual. Obviously, this lack of confidence on his part must generate a lack of confidence on the part of the British public. One of our London correspondents has had a conversation with the inventor, has been shown a number of samples of yarns and fabrics produced by him, and has been assured that the process is capable of being worked on a commercial scale—that, in fact, by Mr. Bennertz's method the preparation of the fibre for spinning can be done at next to no expense. That method, so far as our correspondent could gather, differs *in toto* from all others in vogue, and does not involve the use of any one of the chemicals usually employed. Its great merit, judging from the conversation, lies in its extreme simplicity and the universal distribution of the necessary agent. Mr. Bennertz's assertions, indeed, left on the mind the impression, that he was either stark mad or else that he had made a great discovery. One is diffident in deciding between the two, but the first implication will not be novel to the gentleman, because he laughingly assured our correspondent that he had on several occasions been told that he was stark mad. Perhaps it would be better to preserve an open mind and to await further achievements before deciding.

Another inventor who has been exploiting his own special process in England of late is a Mr. H. Ferguson, of the Phœnix Mills, Brighouse, Yorkshire, who has sent out a circular to those who may feel disposed to interest themselves in ramie. Mr. Ferguson tells us he has for some years past been busily occupied in producing yarns from rhea suitable for the various purposes of textile manufacture, and (like so many men before him) he has conclusively proved the commercial value of his invention. After an expenditure of £30,000 he has overcome all the difficulties, and "as a commercial result he is now in a position to state that with an expenditure of £500,000—so readily found for cotton in the past—a profit of £200,000 per annum can be secured." He has worked out for hemp, ramie, rhea, flax or other fibrous stalks a decorticating machine, which is simple and effective, and is designed to supersede the present system, which is slow and costly. He gives us—what we believe no previous claimant to the distinction ever omitted to give—a portentous list of the branches of textile production in which ramie and the other fibrous stalks can be employed, either by themselves or as adulterants. He offers samples for inspection; and then he comes to the material part of his circular, which is this: "Mr. Ferguson can secure large orders, and only waits capital to extend the present plant and machinery to execute the same, and with a judicious expenditure—as in the case of cotton when started in Lancashire—there is no doubt there will be an enormous sale of the yarn itself, and the fabrics made therefrom will have a world-wide market." If there is anything in the process—and the remark applies to that of Mr. Ferguson and that of Mr. Bennertz with equal force—there need be no heart-break over the question of working capital. The manufacturers of Lancashire and Yorkshire are simply yearning for the right apparatus. That being so, why go further afield when it is simply a question of showing results and getting all the cash required without more ado?

It is beyond question that, granted the cheap production of usable ramie fibre in large quantities, the sphere of usefulness thus created is very wide. Its intrinsic excellence is indubitable, and one well-known chemist has said of it that it is difficult to say what it is not good for. It approaches most closely of all fibres to silk in appearance, and, like silk again, it is virtually a non-conductor, and can be mixed with either silk or wool with advantage to both because of its strength. It is stronger than cotton, and takes faster and more lustrous colours. It can be produced more cheaply than flax and hemp, and is three times as strong. Experiments have shown that as sailcloth it will out-last three sets of ordinary canvas, while it is lighter and keeps a better colour. Linens, damasks, and other goods now made from flax can be manufactured from ramie, and a public estimate has stated—what we can well believe—that tissues made of the latter excel those made of the former, both in beauty of appearance and in strength and durability. In France, many of the largest hotels and restaurants have introduced "table linen" made of ramie. It has been objected against ramie that there are quite enough adulterants in the textile trades without any additions to the list. This is no doubt true, but foreign competition, rendered possible only by wholesale adulteration and cheaper labour, is so severe that we see no hope for absolute purity in manufactures. And we have yet to be convinced that an admixture which benefits the ostensible fabric has nothing to recommend it. But apart from this agreement—which may or may not be fallacious—ramie is capable of legitimate employment in various channels from lace and handkerchiefs to dress-stuffs and furniture damasks. For cambrics and summer dresses, for furniture coverings and hangings it is invaluable, and its moisture-proof qualities, its lustre, its unshrinkableness, and its durability make it equally invaluable for lace and handkerchief yarns, to say nothing of its application for hose, ropes, water-proofing cloth, Indian army clothing, and every day clothing for men, independently of wool. Its adaptability in these directions is not hypothetical; it has been demonstrated outside the experimenting room. It is only because the so-called ideal process has not yet been proved to be the ideal sought that ramie still hangs back. But more than one method admirably adapted to the end in view is now within measurable distance of that test which is the only radical one. At the same time, promising methods, which have all failed, have been so numerous that it would be well to wait and see how they come through the ordeal before deciding finally that either the one or the other is the long looked for perfect process.

THE special Bills which are designed to enable the Australian colonial parliaments to adopt Federation on the lines agreed upon by the premiers are now causing much discussion in the Legislative Assemblies. That Federation will be the early result of these deliberations no one for a moment doubts. But the democratic leaders of New South Wales continue their vain endeavours to create opposition—more possibly by way of self-advertisement than with a serious idea of effecting that which they advocate. In the Sydney House, the other evening, for example, a handful of opponents of the Bill wasted the time of a whole sitting in "airing the absurd fears they hold about federation under the constitution." The second reading of the Bill was moved in a few words, and then the business of the sitting was given over to a handful of members, who spoke for hour after hour, many of them literally addressing empty benches, the members in favour of the Bill adjourning until such time as it became necessary to take a division. Several Labour candidates condemned the Bill as falling short of the democratic idea, and while declining to vote against the second reading, indicated their intention of supporting the amendment for the alternative referendum. The accounts which the colonial papers publish of the debates are picturesque. No one more strenuously opposed federation in any shape than Mr. M'Laughlin, the Conservative member for Raleigh. He is a close friend of the Attorney-General, and took a leading part with Mr. Want in stumping the country last June. He talks now about seeking to get a better bill than the premier has presented, but "underlying it all is a determination to baulk federation by every possible device known in the tortuous game of politics." Mr. M'Laughlin "has an Alfred Jingle-like jerky style of speaking, that lays the emphasis of frequent repetition on everything that he considers a point." He spoke for three hours, and poured "a spluttering deluge of condemnation over the entire Bill." He made copious extracts from Mr. Reid's speeches, to show what he considered to be inconsistency on the part of that gentleman, and he went so far in his interpretation of the premier's former views, that the latter had several times to protest that he was being unfairly quoted. Then followed what the reporter describes as a scene, which was anything but creditable, one honourable member inviting another to step outside. But the Speaker succeeding in restoring order, Mr. Copeland, the only genuine federalist who spoke during the sitting, described the heroics to which the House had just been treated as the shroud of some resurrected provincialist put to rest in America a hundred years ago. All the fear about Melbourne deriving some magnificent benefit in becoming the meeting place of the federal capital for a few years was "sheer bunkum." At the same time, Mr. Copeland thought that the period of Melbourne's enjoyment of the seat of the Federal Government should have been defined, if only as a concession to the tender susceptibilities of Sydney. If it would take three years to erect the buildings in the federal territory, then Parliament might meet successively, during that period, in Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide. Eventually the second reading was carried by an overwhelming majority, and the people will be asked again to vote on the subject of federation within the next few weeks.

SWEATED rupees and half-rupees have been receiving the attention of the Government of India, and a Government resolution on the subject has just been issued. In a notification, dated February 1891, it was provided that when any rupee or half-rupee purporting to be coined and issued under the authority of the Government of India is tendered to any officer authorised to act under section 16 of the Indian Coinage Act, 1870, and the officer has reason to believe it to have lost by reasonable wearing more than two per cent. in weight, he shall receive such rupee or half-rupee at its full nominal value, but shall immediately cut or break it. But it is difficult to decide whether a loss exceeding two per cent. has been caused by fraud or by reasonable wear. A series of experiments conducted at the Indian Mints has proved that during a period of 55 years, the normal life of a coin, reasonable wear will ordinarily reduce the weight of a rupee by two per cent., that is, 3·6 grains, and that a loss amounting to so much as 10 grains has always been the result of fraud. So much established, the matter of dealing with the subject efficiently becomes easy. Light weight coins are to be withdrawn from circulation, but in future the Government of India will refrain from presuming the existence of fraud in all cases where the loss does not exceed 11¼ grains in the case of a rupee and 5 5-8 grains in the case of a half-rupee, but any loss in excess of that will be taken to indicate with certainty that the coin has been fraudulently reduced. Under existing rules silver coins reduced in weight, otherwise than by reasonable wear, must be cut and returned to the tenderer, who, in the present circumstances, would sustain a considerable loss, though often innocent of the fraud and ignorant of it. In order to minimise this loss the officers who are authorised to cut coin are, if the tenderer prefers it, instead of returning the cut coin, to pay for it according to weight. But in cases in which the deficiency in weight exceeds twenty-five per cent., the tenderer will be held to have been so culpably careless that no concession will be made, and he will be left to bear the loss arising from the cutting of the coin which is imposed upon him by the law. It is an equitable as well as a prudent provision.

A TELEGRAM from Karachi states the Municipality of that town have resolved to inform the Commissioner of Sind that their finances will not permit them to provide further funds for future plague expenditure. Karachi is not the only locality which is finding itself in financial difficulty owing to the continuance of the plague. In the Blue Books which are issued week by week, and which come to us for review, there is a painfully unanimous complaint as to the absorption of revenue by reason of adopting measures necessary to combat the pestilence. The cost to Bombay is simply enormous, but fortunately her sources of revenue are much greater than Karachi. The Municipality of the northern port finds its income barely sufficient to meet ordinary expenditure, even when the estimates are cut down to the lowest possible level. Karachi has already entered into heavy liabilities to Government, who have advanced loans to meet expenditure for plague measures. To meet the interest charges special taxes have been levied, but the evacuation of the town owing to recrudescence of plague makes it probable that the estimated amount from this source will not be reached. Moreover, the Municipality may not be in a position even to meet the instalment of the principal as it falls due, and under these circumstances the Corporation do not feel justified in raising further loans or asking for additional advances.

THE P. and O. Company's s.s. Carthage, with the outward mails of the 17th March left Aden, at midnight on Sunday, and is expected to arrive in Bombay at 6 a. m., on Saturday next.

THE remainder of the Gogra-Ganges Doab Lines, Bengal and North-Western Railways, has been offered for inspection prior to opening for passenger traffic.

THE Government of India have sanctioned an estimate for providing accommodation for troops and improving the water supply at Dargai (Malakand).

MR. RUSTOMJEE N. BYRAMJEE JEEJEEBHOY is a candidate for the seat held by the late Mr. Roughton in the Municipal Corporation who represented the Justices of the Peace on that body.

THE Municipal Committee of Lahore have decided not to employ a special native health officer for Lahore.

MR. JUSTICE RAMPINI has been appointed President of the Board of Examiners in native languages at Calcutta, vice Mr. Justice O'Kinealy resigned.

COLONEL H DE LA M. HARVEY has been appointed to officiate as a Colonel on the Staff of the Punjab Command, vice Colonel Neville Chamberain appointed to the Khyber Force.

THE Gloucestershire Regiment will not leave Calcutta for Allahabad until the 7th instant, as the 60th Rifles, who relieve them, have been detained at Colombo owing to quarantine regulations.

THE Government of India have sanctioned the opening of the first section of the Brahmaputra-Sultanpore Railway, from Santahar to Bogra, a distance of 25 miles, for public traffic.

THE goods traffic on the B. B. and C. I. Railway for the week ending 4th March 1899 shows an Increase on the corresponding week of 1898 of 18,823 maunds and Rs. 24,286 in the earnings.

WITH regard the Veruni and Dikhanti fairs at Hurdwar that are now at hand, prohibition has been published against the issue of railway tickets to intending pilgrims from the Bombay Presidency, or from any stations between the Beas and Ludhiana in the Punjab from March 25th to April 14th.

WE understand that provision has been made in the Public Works Department Budget estimates for 1899-1900 for a sum of a lakh and a half for a new office for the Punjab Government at Simla; and that the Government of India has approved of the expenditure.

THE Government of India have decided that the 200 mules and 170 army transport carts of the transport of the Khyber Brigade, rendered surplus by the withdrawal of two battalions of British Infantry from Landi Kotal, will be absorbed in completing the deficiency now existing in the ordinary peace complement of transport.

THE Madras Revenue Returns continue to show satisfactory results, the collections up to the end of February having been 953 lakhs as against 934 3-4 lakhs for the same period last year. Land revenue shows an increase of 9 1-2 lakhs and Salt one of 26 lakhs. The Madras Budget statement will be published next week.

THE review by the Government of India of the report on irrigation works in the Bombay Presidency, excluding Sind, for 1897-98 states that the area irrigated was the largest on record. It is noted that such works in Bombay can never be remunerative, but satisfaction is expressed at the large area irrigated during a year of exceptional drought. A similar review of irrigation in Bengal states that the results achieved are to be considered very satisfactory.

THE Jat Sikh of the Jullundur and Hoshiarpur districts is by no means wanting in enterprise. There is hardly a village from which some young blood does not go out yearly to Africa to seek his fortune in the capacity of overseer, constable or sepoy, returning after three years with pockets full of rupees, ivory, ornaments and yarns full of adventure which he spins to an admiring throng seated under the shade of the spreading pipal tree.

JUDGING from the accounts which have been received lately, the people of the frontier districts must be having an uncommonly warm time of it just at present. Bannu alone is said to furnish no less than 30 murders, 10 dacoities and 139 burglaries in the short space of 2 1-2 months. But the question of what to do under the circumstances, is one which is engaging the attention of the authorities, and probably the strengthening of the undermanned police of those districts will be the first step to commend itself.

As the Government of India have decided that 2 feet 6 inches is to be the gauge for light military railways on the frontier, and as the Nowshera-Dargai line is to be built as that pattern, it becomes important to have on our inland systems as much 2 feet 6 inch rolling-stock as possible in reserve. In an emergency there might be a sudden demand for engines, carriages and waggons, and if these were not forthcoming delay might ensue in the movement of troops and stores. The Government have made provision for a certain reserve in connection with the new Bengal line, but it would be well if private companies could also assist. Now we notice that the Simla-Kalka Railway, as noticed in the official list, is to be of 2 feet gauge which is surely a mistake. It is a line on which there will be but little traffic during the cold-weather and hence it might be able to send rolling-stock to the frontier without inconvenience. Now that a decision has been given regarding the rival gauges on the border-erland it should be possible for the Government to induce the Simla-Kalka Company to change the gauge to 2 feet 6 inch. The additional expense in construction would not be very great, and the haulage power of the line would be greatly increased. We throw out this suggestion in the hope that it will be taken up before the Company has placed its contracts for the material it requires.

THE petition for the grant of probate of the will of the late Sardar Dial Singh Majithia, whereby the deceased has bequeathed his property of several lakhs for a College and a Library, came on for hearing before Mr. Justice Reid, of the Chief Court, Punjab. The applicants are three native lawyers; Rani Bhegwan Kaur the widow of the deceased, and Mrs. Rundle, who alleges that she is junior widow of the deceased, filed *Caveat* objecting to the grant of the probate, but at the request of the counsel of all parties the hearing was adjourned to 24th April next. It is expected that there will soon be a regular suit questioning the validity of the will.

THE North-Western Railway are making grand preparations for the illumination of the Lahore Railway Station on the night of the 5th April. Forty thousand chirags have been arranged all over this immense building. These will all be lighted punctually at 9-15 p. m. on that night, so as to be ready by 9-30 p. m. when the Viceroy takes his departure. Quite an army of men have been engaged, under responsible European supervision, to start lighting on a given signal. A handsome triumphal arch has also been built at the North Entrance to the Lahore Station building.

THE following is the programme for the march of the Chitral reliefs:—The relieving force consists of two guns, No. 3 Mountain Battery, No. 3 Company Bengal Sappers and Miners, 19th Punjab Infantry, 32nd Pioneers, and No. 33 N. F. Hospital. The troops will arrive at Nowshera on the 21st and 22nd April, reach Chakdara on the 28th and 29th April, Dir the 6th May, and Kila Drosh 10th and 11th May. The relieved force consists of two guns No. 3 Mountain Battery, No. 2 Company Bengal Sappers and Miners, the 29th Punjab Infantry, the 39th Garhwal Rifles, and No. 57 N. F. Hospital. They will leave Kila Drosh on the 14th and 15th May, Dir on the 17th and 18th May, Chakdara on the 24th May, and Nowshera on the 29th and 30th.

IT appears that under an old Regulation, Pathans are not allowed to settle at all in Central India, unless they can give guarantee for their good behaviour. The rule has never been rescinded, and in fact in some States it seems to be still in full force. In others, however, it has long been a dead letter, and Pathans are to be found in large numbers in the Gwalior and Bhopal States particularly. The power to make the Regulation effective is still there however; and it is quite possible that in consequence of this dacoity conspiracy the authorities may insist on clearing out every Pathan, who cannot give a good account of himself, from the limits of the Agency, and that many of these people may find themselves on the way back to Peshawar, to be restored whether they like it or not to the bosom of their families.

MUCH comment has recently been made on the evil effects of frequent changes of officials under the system which at present obtains all over India. The charge of the Lahore district is a case in point. The departure on furlough of Mr. G. C. Walker, the present Deputy Commissioner, will cause the sixth change in this office since Mr. A. Meredith relieved Mr. E. A. Hurry on return from a year's furlough in March 1897. M. C. J. Hallifax succeeded Mr. Meredith in April 1898, but proceeded on leave less than a month later. Mr. C. H. Atkins officiated for three months. Mr. Hallifax had only been back for two months, when he was appointed to the Plague Commission on relief by Mr. Walker. The latter's term of office will not have extended to seven months when he proceeds on furlough. It is not unlikely that a temporary summer arrangement will be made to fill a gap.

THE accounts relating to the trade by land of British India with surrounding countries for the nine months, April to December 1898, compared with the same period for the two previous years, show only a slight increase on the whole term. Imports fell during 1897, owing to the unsettlement caused by the plague, from Rs. 4,08,54,511 to Rs. 3,76,19,501, but there was a small increase in exports, namely from Rs. 3,53,95,872 to Rs. 3,57,70,420. The decline in imports was picked up last year, the total being Rs. 4,18,43,893, or nearly seven lakhs better than in 1896. The total over-land trade for the period in question amounted to Rs. 7,84,61,383, as against Rs. 7,33,90,243 in 1897 and Rs. 7,92,50,383 in 1896. The Punjab's share in this total was Rs. 2,56,72,813, over fifty-six lakhs in excess of the previous year and nearly sixteen lakhs more than in 1896. These figures are larger than those of all other provinces doing an overland foreign trade, although Bengal and Burma run the Punjab fairly close.

NEWS reaches the *Pioneer* through Gilgit of the movements of Captain H. H. Deasy, late of the 16th Lancers, who reached Yarkand on the 2nd February, after a three month's winter exploration along the valley of the Yarkand River and the adjacent country from the western end of Rashkam at the foot of the Karakoram Mountains to near Yarkand. The greater part of the route taken by Captain Deasy led through country which had never before been traversed by a European, a fact that we suppose constitutes to an explorer sufficient compensation for all the hardships and dangers of a winter journey in these regions. Numerous steep and difficult passes only crossed by execrable tracks retarded his journey. To survey one stretch of the Yarkand River about eleven miles in length, a detour of nine marches had to be made, five passes crossed in mid-winter, one of them 17,000 feet in height, and five nights spent out in the open when the average minimum temperature was 27 degrees below zero. For this Captain Deasy has been rewarded by being able to establish the fact that the existing maps of the region contain many inaccuracies. Politically information from the same quarter of the world states that the Russian Consul at Kashgar recently announced the intention of his Government to establish at Tagharma a post similar to that which they have already established at Irkestam. Shortly after this the Chinese sent a small party of troops to Tagharma, which they have occupied apparently anticipating the Russians. It is also stated at Kashgar that the Russians have decided to extend the Trans-Caspian Railway from Andijan, East of Khokhand, into Siberia via Vernoie.

IN the matter of the construction of railways through the agency of main line companies, it appears from Sir Arthur Trevor's memorandum, observes the Allahabad paper, that costly project the Assam-Bengal line will continue to absorb enormous sums for several years to come. Its total approximate cost is 10 crores and 86 lakhs of which 8 crores have been already spent. The allotment for the next financial year is 80 lakhs, but thereafter only 50 lakhs per annum will be assigned to it until it is finished. The East Indian will continue work upon the Moghal-Sarai-Gya extension and the Dehri-Daltonganj line; and in 1900-1901 the Company will begin the Shikohabad Furakhabad branch which is to cost 45 lakhs, spread over three years. In Southern India the Madura-Pambau, the Tinnevelly-Tinlon (British Section) which will cost respectively 46 and

TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

THE REVOLT IN THE PHILIPPINES.

AMERICANS CLOSE ON MALABON.

LONDON, MARCH 26.

Despatches from Manila state that the American troops are to-day close upon Malabon, which is in flames. Their losses to-day are less severe than has been the case for some days past. Improvised gunboats are bombarding Malabon, which the Filipinos are evacuating, an attempt to intercept their retreat having failed.

The surgeons from the British warship Powerful volunteered to give aid to the wounded, and have worked indefatigably at the front.

MARCH 27.

The vanguard of the American troops from Manila has arrived fifteen miles from Malolos, the headquarters of the Filipino insurgents.

All the forces are concentrating in that direction.

GRIEVANCES OF THE UITLANDERS.

A petition to the Queen, signed by 21,000 Uitlanders, has been transmitted through Sir Alfred Milner, High Commissioner of Cape Colony, declaring their position in the Transvaal to be intolerable and praying for an enquiry.

The "Times" asks, will President Kruger disregard these warnings until too late?

PROGRESS OF THE SOUDAN RAILWAY.

The Soudan Railway has already been laid fifty miles south of Atbara and will be completed in November.

THE MAILS.

ADEN, MARCH 27.

The P. & O. Company's steamer Carthage, with English mails of the 17th instant, left here for Bombay, at 12 midnight, yesterday, and the same Company's steamer Arcadia left for Colombo and Australia at 12 midnight yesterday.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

PLYMOUTH, MARCH 25.

The P. and O. Company's steamer Sunda, arrived here this morning.

SUEZ, MARCH, 25.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Macfarlane, left here for Colombo, Madras, and Calcutta, this morning.

COLOMBO, MARCH 27.

Mail steamer Oppir from Suez, H.M.S. Melpomene and Hercules from Trincomabe, and Archer from China, arrived.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, MARCH 25.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed firm. Surats dull.

Good Bhownuggur 2 26-32.

The Manchester Market has been quiet but steady.

2½ per cent. Consols	111
3 per cent. Rentes	102½
3½ per cent. Sterling Loan	115½
3½ per cent. Rupee Papers	67 3-16
Bar Silver	27½

PLAGUE IN SIND.

KARACHI'S FINANCIAL POSITION.

At a special general meeting of the Karachi Corporation on Saturday, it was resolved that the Commissioner in Sind be informed that the Municipality regrets that its financial position is such that theordinary income is barely sufficient to meet the ordinary expenditure, even when the latter is cut down to the lowest possible limit, and that on the balance of the last plague loan being exhausted, it will be absolutely impossible for the Municipality to find money for further plague expenditure, which has been heavy and hitherto met by loans and advances from Government. In order to pay off these and to meet the interest charges, the Municipality imposed last year special plague taxes, which came into operation on the 1st of January, 1899, but owing to the recrudescence of plague and the consequent evacuation of the town, it is feared that these special taxes will not yield the amount estimated, and the Municipality may not be in a position even to meet the instalment of the principal as it falls due. Therefore, the Corporation is not justified in raising further loans, or asking for advances. It is confidently hoped that the Commissioner will strongly urge on the Government the necessity of relieving the Municipality of all plague expenditure.

TELEGRAPHIC LINE REPORT.

MARCH 27.

STATE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey perfect. Via Suez, perfect.

CONTINENT OF EUROPE.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey perfect. Via Suez, perfect.

AMERICA.—Via Brest, perfect. Via Valentia, perfect. Via Direct Cable, perfect.

AUSTRALIA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect.

CHINA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect. Via Bhamo, interrupted.

AFRICA.—Via Aden, perfect. Via Cadiz Teneriffe, perfect Via Lisbon, St. Vincent, perfect.

Telegrams for Nicaragua are subject to censure at San Juan Del Sor and accepted at sender's risk.

Telegrams for Panaj Negros (Visayas Islands) are subject to same restrictions as Philippine Islands.

Private telegrams in secret language can be accepted for Philippine Islands but are subject to censure of United States Government.

Censure imposed at Manilla (Philippines) on all telegrams containing political news.

Till further notice telegrams in Code cannot be accepted for Bolivia.

Cable Cayenne Pinheros and Cayenne Paramaribo both Interrupted. During interruptions telegrams for Cayenne are posted from Paramaribo.

Line Saigon Bangkok right.

Madagascar and Reunion mail closes at Mauritius at 5 p.m. on Wednesday the 29th Instant. Bhamo route to China interrupted beyond the British Frontier between Tingyuch and Yangchang.

FOREIGN TELEGRAM REPORTS.

Latest dates of Foreign Messages received at Bombay from the United Kingdom during the 4 hours ending at 8 p.m. of the 27th March, 1899.

[Difference in Longitude allowed for.]

Via	Latest Dates. D.	H.	M.	Time occupied in transmission. Hours.	Minutes
Turkey	26	1	15 p.m.	13	32
Teheran	27	2	34 p.m.	—	20
Suez	27	2	40 p.m.	—	4

Time occupied in the transmission of messages to Bombay during the 24 hours ending 8 p.m. of 27th March, 1899.

	Maximum Time. H.	M.	Minimum Time. H.	M.
From Calcutta	0	39	—	1
" Karachi	0	12	—	1
" Madras	0	29	—	1

Mr. DOOLEY in Peace and War, an amusing American book of the times, which was reviewed in the Chronicle on Jan. 26, and which has obtained a circulation of thirty thousand copies in America, is to be brought out here by Messrs. Putnams. Early Chapters in Science, a volume by Mrs. Awdry, wife of the Bishop of Japan, will be ready shortly. Mr. Murray publishes it. A copy of the rare first edition of Ruskin's poems published in 1850 will be sold at Sotheby's auction room on March 2. Not even the British Museum, it appears, has a copy of this work, only fifty copies having been printed for presents. Mr. T. H. S. Escott is about to publish, through Messrs. Greening and Co., a work of social satire, entitled A Trip to Paradoxia. Mr. F. C. Burnand the editor of "Punch," has consented to write for the "Pall Mall Magazine" two or more chatty articles, giving some personal reminiscences of the writers and artists who, as members of Mr. Punch's Cabinet Council, have sat at the famous Round Table.

CALCUTTA NEWS AND NOTES.

THE BUDGET.

SIR JAMES WESTLAND'S RETIREMENT.

PLAGUE IN CALCUTTA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, MARCH 24.

THE crow sits with beak agape, exposing a scarlet inch of unexpected palate as he pants in the sun, alongside of rough stick built nest where eggs are hatching and rooklets beginning to appear. And above wave pepul shoots that are bursting into great flakes of green, looking too tender to stand even the brightness of an English spring unwilted, yet, in fact, facing the full noonday sun of Bengal, and glorying and waxing in its fiery kiss, though the same is scorching the grass on the maidan, meanwhile, and hurrying the last globe trotter to his ship. For the moment the crow is almost silent, but the shrill che-e-l of the kite is over head, and the mynas chatter on the flat godown roof, while the coppersmith bird toots wearily, for the hot weather is here, and there is no getting out of it.

Cheery nevertheless is human Calcutta, and tennis is afoot and golf flourishes exceedingly, while bicycle polo is played with perspiring animation that even buckled wheel and broken spokes are unable to daunt, for the air during the past week has been from the west and has consequently been dry. And there has been none of the languor that comes, later on, with the moist breeze from the sea. In the evening, it is true, the south wind creeps, in but its time of empire is not yet, impatiently though it be awaited, in its strength, to blow the plague germs away.

Official functions are past, the garden parties at Belvedere are over, and Government House from next Monday night onwards will be the domain of the caretaker, the Viceroy and Secretaries speeding northwards to Simla and Members of Council west and south to their respective provinces, when Calcutta will belong to Calcutta folk once more.

Already chummeries are forming in the boarding houses, to take up Heads of Departments' houses, and sit on burra-sahib's furniture and play that inspiriting but destructive innovation, billiard polo, on the hitherto cherished cushions of the senior partner's table, and even hockey on the tennis courts, and hilarious bicycle polo where badminton has been—till the cold season comes back, or the tea broker or indigo buyer returns to claim his own. And memsahebs who mean to outstay the heat are weaving bonds of intimacy with other brave souls like themselves, and for the rest there are packing cases and guide books, and already tears and good-byes.

For more serious matters the week has been an important one. Its beginning saw the presentation of the Budget, which has already been discussed in your columns. With it Sir James Westland's stewardship comes to a close. He leaves the treasuries full, the Secretary of State financed by a million sterling ahead of his requirements, a large surplus again expected, and two crores in gold accumulated against the impending change in the currency standard. More than this, he leaves the Finance Department in order and its work brought up to date. This has been achieved after finding the money to fight the greatest famine of the century, and to pay for a more extensive frontier campaign than India has seen since the year 1878. The position is primarily, of course, due to the abundant harvests that have followed the deficiency. It is also owing to good management and careful economy, for which Sir James Westland deserves credit. For the Government of India is so constituted that the Finance Minister, and he alone of the advisers of the Viceroy, stands responsible for the total that is spent. The other members of Council are each the head of great administrative departments, and so completely taken up with their working—the efficiency of which they cannot but see would be improved if there were more money to spend on them—that the Finance Member stands very much alone as the guardian of the interests of the taxpayer. Upon his shoulders falls the burden of keeping the expenditure of the Government down to its income, and the ungratefulness of the task of economy. When he succeeds, therefore, his credit is the greater, and it must be admitted that Sir James Westland has done this. His currency proposals may have been criticised, and criticised justly, but the fact that he found the Government of India poor and has left it rich, and that its present prosperity is largely due to his careful husbanding of its resources and his sturdy determination to discountenance extravagance, cannot be denied.

Those too who are in the know of what happened when the frontier was ablaze, and when famine, and earthquake, and plague had to be faced, will remember not only the cheerful confidence of the man who held the purse strings, but the fact that when it came to be a question of doing any really big thing, whether it were the sweeping back of frontier invasion, or the fighting of famine or plague, it was always the Finance Member who was the one to advocate thoroughness. The fact was much noticed in the anxious days of the autumn of 1899 by those who were finding their own proposals, for what they were convinced were desirable improvements, negatived in the Finance Department on the score of expense, the economy thus so rigidly enforced in smaller matters being what enabled Sir James to respond ungrudgingly when national calamity arrived or the peace of the border was threatened. When to this is added a homely kindness of manner and a simplicity and considerateness that has made the Finance Member approachable to all, the picture of the personality that India is losing becomes to some extent complete. Sir James is leaving, in all probability never to return, but the memory of his sturdy commonsense and kindly humour will remain.

The Budget and the considerations it has raised have somewhat over shadowed other matters that have been before the public at the same time. The Sugar Bounties Act, however, which passed into law last Monday, marks almost an era by itself. It is an era that is epitomised in Lord Curzon's declarations that the industries of India are to be protected. Imperial considerations of mutual help of one part of the empire to another there are besides, but the central feature concerns India alone, and is one of encouragement, that those engaged in branches of commercial and industrial activity other than sugar will also note.

Amongst other measures of the week the Court Fees Bill, that has now been a few days in operation, claims prominence, since the question of its interpretation has already come up. This has been in the Calcutta High Court, where a doubt appears to exist as to whether or no probate can be granted without the often highly inconvenient delay of a reference to the revenue authorities. That it was the intention of the Council to save such delay nobody doubts, but the contention is that the wording of the Act is insufficient to cover the cases that are already beginning to arise. This is partly due to the fact that succession duty in India is not, as it is at home, a charge upon the property, which the ultimate holder must pay. A doubt, therefore, as to what precautions the Court is responsible for taking before it can grant probate is of more importance than it would otherwise be, and though the commonsense of the judges is already finding a way out of the difficulty, it is none the less a real one. It now appears how important was the amendment for which the community are indebted to Sir Griffith Evans in this measure, which provides that the grant of probate shall not be delayed while the revenue authorities are making their enquiries. But for this, the time that would have been liable to be lost while the administration of an estate was kept at a standstill, after the death of its proprietor, and all suits connected with it stayed, would have been still greater.

Regarding the plague, a new page has been turned by the memorandum published by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce on the subject of the desirability of more energetic measures of sanitation. The fact is that with the serious increase that has been taking place the position in Calcutta is different from what it was when only a few isolated cases had to be considered. The experience, however, of Bombay, where, after years of coercion and friction in endeavouring to enforce segregation, the disease has had to be left to run its course, will not be lost upon this side of India. The most hopeful feature of the situation is the evidence which is accumulating of the success of inoculation as a preventive. The knowledge of this must surely spread, and, as it does so, difficulties hitherto insuperable in connection with its application will certainly diminish. The outlook, therefore, is less discouraging than would otherwise be the case, though the spreading of the disease both in Calcutta and in the districts around it cannot be regarded otherwise than as very serious. Happily experience shows that, whatever may be the case in a great city, village outbreaks can always be checked by energy and activity upon lines in which the people themselves can be led to co-operate. The securing of such co-operation is essential, but it does not in any wise relieve European district officials and the local Government which controls them of the duty of taking the initiative. Mr. Beatson Bell has afforded a practical illustration of what is possible under the conditions which obtain in Bengal, and his success in completely stamping out the disease in one of the first of the villages to be affected, may be usefully noticed as an example of how to deal with the matter efficiently, yet without producing undue friction. It is on these lines that the war against the disease will have to be waged in Bengal, as it has been waged elsewhere, and the spectacle of the Punjab Government holding ever the evil in check by watchful activity, of the Central Provinces now free, and of the Madras Presidency slowly but surely obtaining the upperhand in the struggle, is full of encouragement for Bengal.

BOMBAY LIGHT HORSE.

GYMKHANA AND POINT TO POINT RACES.

A LARGE company assembled at Santa Cruz, yesterday afternoon, to witness the annual gymkhana and point to point races. The rendezvous was a fine open piece of country near the camp, and from a spectator's point of view provided much better sport than the site of the recent Jackal Club point to point races. The proceedings started with a jumping competition for Light Horse chargers, and Lance-Corporal Rome's Clinker was awarded first prize. Corporal Roberts' Hawthorne and Trooper Lindsay's Medowra, ridden by Trumpeter Webster, tied for second honours, and as points were deducted if the owners did not ride, the former animal was placed second. The Lloyd-Lindsay competition afforded considerable amusement, and was keenly contested. Seven teams entered, five of the Light Horse, one from the Navy, and one from the Jackal Club. The latter and a Light Horse team did not compete. Corporal Roberts was in charge of the winning team, who accomplished the task in 2min. 35secs. Their work was quick, but in galloping they went ragged, and evidently sacrificed style for speed. Lieut. Moir's team gained a special prize for style, and the men rode in excellent order. The work done by Lieut. Symons' team was also very good, but unfortunately the leader's charger persistently refused the fences. The open point to point for horses brought out four animals, Klondyke being most fancied. He led from the start, but on the horses again coming into sight, Clinker was in front. A quarter of a mile from home Klondyke drew level, and taking a better line through the rocks, came round the distance flag with a clear lead, which he maintained to the finish. Time—7min. 11 2-5 secs. The Santa Cruz Scurry was run in two heats, Mischief winning the first in 28 seconds, while Cypress was successful in the next, his time being 28 1-5secs. The first two horses in each heat competed in the final, which seemed at one time to be at the mercy of Billy. He ran wide of a post, and this mistake let up Mischief, who won by a length. Time—27 2-5secs. There was much interest in the Light Horse Cup, for which nine animals competed. Medowra started favourite, and at the start her rider let his opponents show the way to the post, where Webster took a better line of country and Medowra came in sight unattended, her jockey allowing his mount to come along at a canter. Peebles gradually closed up, but Medowra won, pulling up by five lengths. Vanity, the same distance off Peebles, was third. There were several falls in this race. At the conclusion of the sports, Mrs. Symons gave away the prizes, at the conclusion of which hearty cheers were accorded to the lady. The judges fulfilled their duties excellently, Captain Crawford, Messrs. A. K. Remington and G. H. Townsend being responsible for the decisions. Mr. E. Rivers-Smith acted as starter, Mr. Darcy Lindsay as time keeper, and Mr. J. A. Jeffrey clerk of the scales. The committee for arranging the event were: Captain T. W. Cuffe, Lieutenant G. W. Moir, Lieutenant Heugh Symons, Messrs. F. A. Reddie, E. Rivers-Smith, D. Lindsay, H. E. Procter, T. L. Roberts, and C. G. Webster.

The honorary secretary was Mr. F. J. Rome, and the arduous manner in which he worked contributed very materially to the success of the event.

JUMPING COMPETITION FOR LIGHT HORSE CHARGERS.—Prize Cup presented by Lieut. G. W. Moir.

Lance-Corpl Rome's Clinker 1
Lance-Corpl Roberts' Hawthorne 2

AUNT SALLY LLOYD. LINDSAY COMPETITION.—Open.

Light Horse B Team:—Lce.-Corpl. Roberts, Troopers Broom, Ogston, and Simpson 1
Special prize—Light Horse C. Team:—Lieut. Moir, Troopers A. Smith, Umbleger and Irvine 0

OPEN POINT TO POINT FOR HORSES.

Mr A S Lorescho's Klondyke, 12st 7lbs.....Owner 1
Mr F Rome's Clinker, 12st 7lbs Mr J H Symington 2
Mr C B Wallace's Thin Fat, 11st 0lbs .....Owner 0
Mr W S Thornton's Cockles, 12st 7lbs.....Owner 0

SANTA CRUZ SCURRY.

FIRST HEAT.

Mr. F. J. Rome's Mischief, 12 st.....Owner 1
Mr. Laing's Billy, 12st.....Owner 2

SECOND HEAT.

Mr. A. V. Courage's Cypress 11st. .....Owner 1
Mr. J. L. Symon's Sanam, 11st. 2....Owner 2

FINAL.

Mr. F. J. Rome's Mischief 1
Mr. Laing's Billy..... 2

THE LIGHT HORSE CUP.

Trooper Lindsay's Medowra 12st 7lbs.....Trumpeter Webster 1
Trooper Peeble's Lumpy, 12st 7lbs .....Owner 2
Trooper Skene's Vanity, 12st 7lbs.....Sergt. Reddie 3

YACHT CLUB RACES.

LIST OF ENTRIES FOR THE PULLING RACES TO BE HELD TO-DAY.

8-oared and over boats' race.—European crews.

Boat's name.	Entered by.
H. M. S. Eclipse's Cutter	Lieut. Mawbey.
Do Marathon's Cutter	Do J. H. D. St. John.
Do Magdala's Cutter	Do L. H. Richardson.

Start at 6 p.m.—Length of course 4 miles.

8-oared and over boats' race—Native crews.

Boat's name.	Entered by.
H. M. S. Magdala's Custor No. 1	Lt. L. H. Richardson.
Do. do. 2	
Do. do. 3	

Start at 5 p.m.—Length of course 4 miles.

4 to 6-oared boats' race.—European crews.

Boat's name.	Entered by.
H. M. S. Assaye's Whaler	Lt. H. M. Salmond, R. I. M.
Do. Eclipse's do.	Lt. Mawbey.
Do. Marathon's do.	Lt. J. H. D. St. John.
Do. Magdala's do.	Lt. L. H. Richardson.

Start at 5-30 p.m.—Length of course 1½ miles.

Race for Torpedo boats punts—European crews.

Boats number.	Entered by
No. 100	Lt. L. H. Richardson.
" 101	
" 102	
" 103	
" 104	
" 105	
" 106	

Start at 6 p.m.—Length of course 3-4 miles.

Race for Torpedo boats punts—Native crews.

Boat's number.	Entered by.
No. 107	Lt. L. H. Richardson.
" 101	
" 102	
" 103	
" 104	
" 105	
" 106	

Start at 5-15 p.m.—Length of course three-quarter miles.

Race for Yacht's dinghies.—Start at 5-45 p.m.

Boat's name.	Entered by.
Eileen's Dinghy	Mr. C. A. R. Crommelin.
Isca's "	Mr. James J. Chrystal.
Pixie's "	Messrs. E. R. Smetham and G. E. Howse.
Chita's "	Mr. K. Combe.
Stella's "	Capt. J. G. Hojel, I. M. S.
Melody's "	Mr. J. R. K. Macbeth.
Cygnet's "	Mr. E. C. Richards.

Length of course 3-4 miles.

The Ship's boats race postponed from Saturday last, 25th instant, will be re-sailed to-morrow (Wednesday), 29th instant, Start at 3 p.m.

MILITARY NEWS.

THE following appointments have been made:—2nd Bengal Light Infantry.—2nd-Lieutenant G. W. Rose, from the Unattached List, is posted as a supernumerary. 17th Bengal Infantry.—2nd-Lieutenant Combe from the Unattached List, to be officiating Wing Officer. 2nd Battalion 5th Gurkhas Rifles.—Lieutenant Holdich, officiating Wing Officer 1st Battalion, is transferred in the same capacity as a temporary measure. 8th Bengal Infantry.—Lieutenant Mears, 1st Bengal Lancers, to be officiating Squadron Officer. 6th Madras Infantry.—2nd-Lieutenant Bazett, from the Royal Sussex Regiment, to be officiating Wing Officer. 2nd Punjab Infantry.—2nd Lieutenant Browne from the 30th P. I. to be officiating Wing Officer.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

FEBRUARY TRADE RETRUNS.

TRADE COMBINATIONS.

THE SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY.

LONDON, MARCH 0.

THE Board of Trade accounts relating to the foreign trade and navigation of the United Kingdom during February seem to indicate that the apparently more healthy symptoms presented by the January figures, as compared with previous months, were not delusive. The fact that the decided increase of £1,740,557 in the declared value of the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures as against February last year is accompanied by a decrease in the declared value of the imports—though only to the extent of £184,180—will not detract from the encouragement afforded in the minds of many observers. After all, making every allowance for the profitable nature of our investments abroad, it remains desirable that the country should, to a reasonable extent, continue to live on the fruits of its own labour rather than too exclusively on the oversea tribute which such investments bring, or on capital brought home from abroad. To people who take this not entirely indefensible view the fact that the re-exports of foreign and colonial merchandise during February also show a further increase of £550,573 will not be less satisfactory. In regard to the increase in the exports, allowance must, of course, again be made for the fact that the value of the new ships built for foreign owners, which is now included in the returns, was not added to last year's figures. The amount of this item is £205,032; but, even deducting it from the total for February this year, there still remains an increase of upwards of a million and a half sterling, or about three times the increase shown by the January figures after the corresponding deduction.

The decrease in the declared value of the imports is due mainly to a diminished importation of raw textile materials, a contraction, indeed, which far exceeds the total decrease on the import side of the account. Raw cotton alone shows a decrease of £914,882 for the month, but it may be pointed out that there was an increase of £1,837,284 in the January figures, so that no inference as to a decline in the consumption of raw cotton in this country can be drawn from the February figures. There were decreases, also, in the imports of flax, jute, and wool, following decreases in the January imports; but there was a continued noticeable increase in the imports of alpaca and mohair. The imports of living animals, of cocoa, currants, tea spirits, and wine—in the dutiable list of articles of food and drink,—of manufactured goods (noticeably glass, and leather, silk, and wool manufactures), and of articles sent by parcel post also show decreases for February. On the other hand, the imports of iron and steel manufactures, of duty-free articles of food and drink, of metals generally, of chemicals and dyestuffs—especially indigo—of oils, manures, tallow, paper-making materials, timber, drugs, seeds, and oil-seeds cake all show increases. As regards the duty-free food imports, it may be mentioned that the imports of wheat again show a decrease in value with an increase in quantity, while oats, peas, and beans show decreases in quantity and value, the imports of maize continuing to show expansion. Practically, had it not been for the diminution in the imports of raw cotton with the rise in prices and the contraction of the receipts at the American ports, the declared value of the imports would again have shown a substantial increase.

The chief increase in the classified list of exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures occurs under the head of raw materials, and represents, almost exclusively increased exports of coal, though there was also a not uninteresting increase in the exports of home-grown wool. The next largest increase occurs under head of machinery and millwork. The increase in the exports of coal and machinery alone, in fact represent upwards of half the amount of the total increase in the declared value of the exports, leaving out of account the ships, which, as already stated were not recorded last year. A noteworthy feature in the February list of exports is however, a substantial (increase in the exports of metals and articles—other than machinery and ships manufactured therefrom, which is mainly accounted for by an increase in the value of the copper, wrought and unwrought, exported. The increase shown under the head of yarns and textile farics exported is less important than might have been expected, the exports of cotton yarn showing a further marked decrease, which, within £10,500 in round figures, counterbalances the increase in the exports of cotton piece goods. Increases in the exports of linen yarns and piece goods and of woolen yarns and piece goods are shown; but the exports of worsted yarns and piece goods show further decreases, as also the exports of silk yarns and piece goods. It cannot be said that any of the figures give serious testimony to a revival in the American demand. The exports of miscellaneous manufactures show a fairly substantial increase in the aggregate.

There was nothing very striking in the treasure movements last month. An increased importation of gold was about balanced by an increased exportation of that metal, the net importation being equivalent to only £132,642. The net importation for the expired two months of the year is £672,253. The imports of silver during February, and also for the two months, show increases as against last year, while the exports show decreases. The net importation of silver for the expired two months is valued at £286,513, but it is perhaps unnecessary to say that this amount does not include silver imported in the ore state.

"Trade Combinations" are of particular interest at the present moment, when so many producers and merchants appear to be turning their thoughts in that direction, either with a view to mutual protection or profit; and any attempt to analyse the conditions and indicate the results of this undoubted tendency is therefore both interesting and timely. Under the above mentioned title Mr. Scott Lings has given us a thoughtful pamphlet (Manchester: James Collins and Co) in which he expresses his views on the subject with impartiality and candour. Making no reference to industries which cease to be profitable because of a cessation of demand for the products, Mr. Lings discusses the other causes by reason of which a trade becomes unremunerative—over-expansion, foreign competition and domestic or internal competition. Over-expansion, he says, is ended either by the weaker businesses going to the wall, or by a combination of the firms engaged in the trade which is the only practicable way of limiting the output. Mr. Lings condemns "combinations conceived in the spirit of monopoly and fictitious prices." It would be well to make very much clearer the distinction between these two, for it may be argued that it is a distinction without a difference; that the deliberate limitation of output and the equally deliberate raising of prices by a wealthy monopoly come to very much the same thing in the end. Mr. Lings is on less debatable ground when he says that "unless material economies can be effected by co-operation, no combination can be sound in the face of foreign competition;" and that this economy can be brought about, first, in the cost of distribution a method chiefly applicable to industries selling directly to the public; and secondly, in the case of industries passing their productions on to other manufacturers for a completing process, which brings us to the old truism about the division of labour. He adds that combinations of auxiliary industries against domestic competition are admittedly for the purpose of enhancing prices, and "economy alone would not justify their creation." It is doubtful whether the British consumer, in the face of American experience, can be brought to condone any combination for the purpose of lessening domestic competition, but the evils apprehended from attempted monpolies of this nature are certainly likely to be less here than in a country with a high protective tariff. There are three classes of persons to be taken into consideration as well as the producer—the outside investor, the operative, and the consumer. The first must see to it that the vendors of a successful business continue to give the concern the benefit of their experience, that the new company is not over-capitalised and that there is proper security for the debentures. Mr. Lings says that the operative can look for regular employment, better pay, and the better equipment of factories; but it may be urged against him that under a monopoly there would not be free competition for the services of the artisan, and that the latter might in consequence suffer. As to the consumer, Mr. Lings contends that he may get greater regularity of quality and price. Finally he urges that a great saving may be effected by the centralisation of finance and that what he terms "the detestable system of 'baksheesh'" may be eliminated. We may all agree with Mr. Lings that combinations other than those constituted honestly and on sound bases "will meet the fate of all enterprise which is economically unsound and extortionate in its demands."

The returns prepared by the British Iron Trade Association, just issued, show that the production of pig-iron in the United Kingdom last year was only 8,631,151 tons against 8,817,109 tons in 1897, the decrease being 185,958 tons. In view of the unprecedented activity of the iron, steel, and engineering industries in 1898, this falling off seems at first sight strange. It must be observed, however, that the exports of British pig-iron last year were not more than 1,042,296 tons, against 1,201,104 tons in 1897. There were consequently, the whole home production, 1,58,808 tons retained for home consumption in excess of the amount so retained in the previous year. Moreover, there was a slight increase of about 1,500 tons in the quantity of pig-iron imported, and a further small increase of about 3,000 tons in the imports of steel billets and of manufactured iron and steel. It is evident that for the rest of the means of maintaining the large production of the many kinds of manufactures of these metals including ships, the previously existing stocks of pig-iron must have been drawn upon. The reduced outturn of pig-iron at home is mainly to be ascribed to the scarcity of ore, for supplies of which we are becoming more and more dependent on foreign sources, chiefly Spain. Hopes are entertained by British smelters of obtaining larger quantities from other countries, Scandinavia especially, but at present the question is still a problem, how to supplement the diminishing, or at least not enlarging, supply of ore from beneath our own soil.

Considering the great activity in the shipbuilding industry, the tonnage launched from Scotch yards last month—29,008 tons—does not seem large, although it exceeds that of February in any year since 1896, when the quantity was 39,391 tons. The main reasons for the comparatively moderate total this year are the bad weather and the difficulty of obtaining full supplies of steel and other materials in the face of the present urgent demand for them. The Scotch launchings since the beginning of this year amount to 60,805 tons, against 43,582 tons in the corresponding period of 1898, 30,425 tons in 1897, 56,844 tons in 1896, and 41,784 tons in 1895. Amongst the vessels put into the water last month was a steamer of 3,750 tons for the African Steamship Company, one of 3,300 tons for the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, and two small steamers for Spanish and Brazilian owners. Very few new orders were placed during the month, partly, no doubt, because shipowners have pretty fully anticipated their requirements for, at all events, a little time forward, but more because shipbuilders have already almost as much work contracted for as they can get out of hand during the remainder of the present year. It is understood that two of the former Inman liners sold to American owners are to be lengthened at one of the Clyde yards. One new order has just been received from the Russian Government for a dredger of 800 tons to be used in the Sea of Azov.

The German "Kosmos" Steamship Company, of Hamburg, has declared a dividend of 9 per cent. for 1898, as against 7 1-2 per cent. for 1897. The Company amalgamated some time ago with the Hamburg Pacific Steamship Company. It is admitted that the business of the Company has been suffering in consequence of the exchange conditions in Chili and the apprehensions of an impending further issue of papercurrency there some of the Company's vessels failing to obtain full cargo. The unsatisfactory business conditions in the Central American Republics are also telling adversely on the traffic, the supply of outward cargo having materially fallen off and the return freights being lessened by the regular communications established in conjunction by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and the Compania Sud Americana de Vapours between Valparaiso and Central America. The traffic with Peru has improved and the ports of Ecuador are proving more and more important. A recent increase in the return shipments of nitrate, ores, boron, grain, and other Chilian products and an increase of passenger traffic have encouraged hopes that the business of the current year will, after all, prove fairly satisfactory. As announced some time ago, the German Levant Line, of Hamburg, has also declared a dividend of 9 per. cent for 1898, as against 6 per cent for 1897. It is stated in the report that traffic with the Levant ports developed in a very encouraging way during the year reviewed, export business thither by way of Hamburg having noticeably increased, while the shipments obtained at Antwerp were also on a satisfactory scale Increased attention is to be given to the encouragement of passenger traffic. The Company intends for the future to undertake part of the insurance of its vessels. The Hansa Steamship Company, of Bremen, has declared a dividend of 14 per cent for 1898, as against 8 per cent. for 1897. The Hamburg-American Steam Packet Company has sold its steamer Russia—built in 1888—to Russian owners at a considerable profit on the amount which the vessel represented in the books of the Company.

THE CITY MORTALITY.

THE Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 a.m., yesterday, give the following results:—

Wards.	Plague. Attacks.	Deaths.	Deaths from all Causes
A Upper, Middle and Lower Colaba, Fort Northern, Fort Southern and Esplanade	9	4	15
B Mandvi, Chunkla, Oomerkhadi and Dongri	17	9	40
C Market, Dhobi Talao, Panaswady, Bhuleshwer, Khara Talao and Kumbarwada	25	14	49
D Khetwadi, Girgaum, Chowpati, Walkeshwar and Malabarhill	30	13	29
E Mazagon, Tarwady, 2nd Nagpada, Kamatipura, Tardeo, Byculla and 1st Nagpada	105	32	84
F Parel, Sewree and Sion	5	18	37
G Mahim and Worli	10	6	21
Water Division	0	0	0
Non-Resident and Unknown	0	0	0
Hospitals	0	81	91
Total	201	177	366
Total plague deaths to date	41,579	36,608	—
Same date last year	120	122	254

BANDORA.

There were 5 attacks and 3 deaths from plague reported within the limits of the Bandora Municipality, on Sunday.

DAMAUN.

The plague mortality of Lower Damaun from Monday, the 20th to Saturday, the 25th instant, was as follows:—On the 20th, 4 deaths; on the 21st, 3; on the 22nd, 2; on the 23rd, 1; on the 24th, 4; and on the 25th, 3. At Upper Damaun there were four deaths at Chowta from plague, all among the Durji caste, people of which caste were not prompt enough to vacate their premises after the appearance of dead rats.—According to the Plague Commissioner's report, it appears that there has been no attack or death from plague during he last ten days in the village of Lower Damaun, which, according to the census he has very carefully taken, appears at present, when nearly three-fourths of the people have left for mandwas outside the city, to contain 757 souls, out of whom 117 are inoculated, 636 uninoculated, and 4 recovered from plague.

AFTER visiting the Atbara battlefield, the Duke of Connaught presented the Distinguished Service Order to Lieutenant Stevenson, Hall, and Midwinter. The Duke and Duchess of Connaught arrived at Wady Halfa on Friday, Feb. 24, and started for Assouan the next day, where the Duke of Connaught laid the foundation-stone of the new English church. In performing the ceremony, his Royal Highness said:—"It is with great pleasure that I lay the foundation-stone of this church, the furthest south in Egypt, which will be a great godsend to our countrymen and our brethren from the United States who continue to come in increasing numbers to Egypt. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost I lay this first stone of St. Mark's Church." In reply to an address read by Colonel Esdaile welcoming the royal party, the Duke said that he felt great pleasure in seeing a work approaching completion which would be a blessing to his countrymen and to the increasing numbers of American visitors. At the close of the service the Duke telegraphed to the Queen. His Royal Highness subscribed 25*l.* to the church fund. The trowel used was fashioned out of a Dervish spearhead.

THE FAR EAST.

RUSSIAN PROGRESS IN MANCHURIA.

THE RECENT CONFLICT WITH THE CHINESE.

ALLEGED OUTRAGES BY RUSSIANS.

FROM a well-informed correspondent, who writes as the result of personal observation, we have received an interesting communication giving a detailed account of Russian progress in Manchuria and the northern provinces. He points out that, whereas the only British subjects who are permitted by treaty to own land outside treaty limits are missionaries, Russians in Manchuria are acquiring land as they please and are already working mines. The railway, too, is obviously a military one, and he asserts that there are 30,000 Russian troops at Port Arthur, 3,000 at Talienwan 2,000 at Kinchou, 20 at Lunchou, 20 at Wafanglien, 200 at Newchwang, 200 at Haicheng, 200 Liaoyang, 200 at Kirin, 20,000 Haipian north of Kirin and in fact, Russian soldiers all over Manchuria. They are to be met with even where the railway will not touch. In Haicheng the Russians have taken a pawnshop and fortified it by mounting guns. At Liaoyang they have a site two hundred yards square where they are building barracks. At one place, some 20 *li* from Liaoyang, the Russians had attempted to take possession of a house, and an old woman who resisted was kicked to death. The Russian explanation was that the old woman attempted to set fire to the house and in preventing her 'she got hurt and died.' After paying a few dollars the Russians kept possession of the house. At another place 12 *li* from Liaoyang they commenced to take forcible possession of a house belonging to a well-to-do Chinese. The Chinese held their own and the Russians are now putting in a claim for compensation. Regarding the recent affray to the east of Kinchou, it appears that an armed deputation carrying a petition for the reduction of the new land tax of five dollars per *mow* which the Russians are collecting, was fired upon by the Russian soldiers, 100 being killed and wounded. At Kirin the Russians have possession of the Chinese barracks, and 200 soldiers with 20 officers and mining engineers are quartered there. Outside the city they are purchasing land and intend erecting houses for the summer. The officials and people are much afraid of the intruders, who do just as they like and square any remonstrances with a few dollars. Visitors to the locality cannot move without being shadowed by Russians. As there is no railway at Kirin, and the branch line which is projected will not reach there for two or three years, the presence of the soldiers appears unnecessary. The Russo-Chinese Bank have opened a branch in Kirin, worked by Chinese, with one foreigner, who is a British subject, but little beyond political work appears to be done. At Haipien, where the railway will branch off from the main line to Vladivostock, there is a Russian settlement with 2,000 soldi

his denunciations by declaring that he feared he had already incurred the enmity of certain high Ministers the Court by making the above and so refrained from saying more. The Empress Dowager demanded an explanation of this hint and required the memorialist to point out the high Ministers by name. No one dreamed that he would have the daring to mix up the most powerful officer of the Empire and a rising favourite of the Empress Dowager in this affair, *i.e.*, Jung Lu and Li Shan, Senior Vice-President of the Board of Revenue. Yet so it appears this Hanlin has done Ch'en Pin-ho declared that the hint was directed against Jung Lu and Li Shan, for when the former was Tartar-General at Hsian, he is declared to have been on most intimate terms with Chang Ju-mei when Chang was Provincial Treasurer and acting Governor in the same city (Hsian, capital of Shensi). This according to an edict of the 1st of March is declared, to be absurd for Jung Lu left Hsian for Chihli, where he has been ever since, in 1894, whereas Chang Ju-mei did not get to Hsian until the year following or 1895. As for Li Shan, the denouncer declared that, when he was Imperial Commissioner of the Soochow Silk-looms, years ago, Chang Ju-mei, then an expectant Taotai of Kiangsu, was connected with the Salt Gabelle at Huaian, and the two were very great friends then. To this charge the Empress Dowager says Li Shan, as Silk-looms' Commissioner, was always at Soochow in the South of Kiangsu; Hsaian is in the North of the province, a distance of many miles, where, moreover, the one had nothing to do with the other, their businesses being so very different, and separated as they were by many days, journey. Hence "both charges being preposterous they must naturally fall through"—as the denouncer apparently meant them to. "The memorialist," says the edict in question, "ought to be severely punished for his culpable charges, but he is pardoned as a matter of extraordinary grace, and we command that he be only reprimanded for his folly." In other words, Ch'en Pin-ho by making absurd charges not only saved the reputations of his victims with the Empress Dowager, but by amusing her with such daring and preposterous charges, the politic Hanlin succeeded in turning aside the wrath of the Empress Dowager and all the Ministers of the Court from himself.—*N. C. Daily News.*

THREATENED DEADLOCK AMONG THE SHANGHAINATIVE BANKS

Owing to the present strong excitement amongst Chinese banking hongs and their constituents, the native mercantile community of Shanghai, over a recent alleged dishonouring of some notes issued by several local native banks, in consequence of which affairs have now arrived at a rather serious stage which threatens to cause considerable inconvenience to trade here, it is perhaps relevant to give with all reserve the native version of the affair.

Towards the end of last Chinese year a kerosene oil hong, so runs the story, outside the East-gate of the native city, Yah Chih, belonging to a native called Chou, suddenly failed. Previous, however, to the failure, Chou paid over to the Hung Yu Rank notes issued by four other well-known banks, amounting to something over Tls. 7,000, which it appeared Chou owed the Hung Yu Bank. Now it is the custom amongst natives whenever they are paid in notes issued by local banks to send them to the issuers for verification. When Hung Yu received the above notes they were taken as usual for verification to the four banks named in the notes who chopped them as 'good.' But when the notes fell due and Hung Yu went to collect their money, the banks in question refused to pay on the plea that a foreign firm with some Chinese employes of that hong had come to them warning them that the notes in question had been lost by them, and ordering these banks not to honour the notes when presented. Naturally Hung Yu resented this and took the banks to task, representing that as they (the four banks) had stamped their verifications on their own notes they were legal tender, according to banking custom from time immemorial, and that they had no right to dishonour their own notes in this way. But protest as Hung Yu would the four banks still refused to honour their notes. In consequence of this the Hung Yu Bank addressed the Committees of the North and South Bank Guilds asking for a joint meeting of the members of the two Guilds to consider the question, and a meeting being held the other day it was contended that, as the notes in question had never been lost, it was simply absurd to declare that they had been lost. Moreover, if any fraud had been committed, the proper person responsible for it is Chou the bankrupt and absconded proprietor of the Yah Chih kerosene oil hong. Again as the foreign firm in question had had no dealings in kerosene it was clear that they themselves had no personal interest in the matter. The result of the meeting was that a joint petition was written in the name of the two guilds and signed by all the bank managers present addressed to the Taotai explaining how matters actually stood and praying for justice. In consequence of this influential petition, Taotai at once instructed the Mixed Court magistrate to order the four refractory banks to honour their own bills when presented for collection by Hung Yu. In spite of this it appears that the four banks still refused to pay, saying that "they feared to go against the German Consul as they would then be made to pay twice on the same notes," etc. Another joint meeting of banks was then called by the two guilds at which the Hung Yen Bank manager contended that 'business in Shanghai depended in a great measure upon the circulation of notes issued by native banks, and since the notes received by him from Yah Chih had been verified in the usual way of business by the banks which issued them, and neither stolen nor picked up by him, he failed to see how the four banks could refuse to acknowledge their responsibility in the matter. He thought that the interests of all business men were endangered if this came to be a general way to avoid payment of a perfectly legal tender, and that his bank's loss of Tls. 7,000 would be nothing when compared with the great interests that would be involved in the future were such a preposterous pretext allowed to remain unchallenged and unprotested against by all Chinese business hongs and banks in Shanghai." This being agreed to by those present, it was unanimously resolved that, if within a certain time the notes in question were not paid by the issuing banks, all other members of the two Guilds would stop all further issuance of notes, and thus emphasise their protest by causing a deadlock in the local trade.—*N. C. Daily News.*

THE CAPITULATION OF CEBU.

A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT.

THE SITUATION IN LUZON.

ALLEGED PLOT TO MURDER THE FOREIGNERS.

DEMANDS OF THE FILIPINO INSURGENTS.

The following details from a letter dated Cebu, February 22, will give your readers an idea of the situation at that place:—

"The U.S.S. *Petrel*, accompanied by a small tug arrived at Cebu at 10 a.m., on the 21st inst. The captain of the British gunboat *Pigmy* and the British Vice-Consul went on board the *Petrel* immediately, and the situation was made known to Commander Cornwell. The British officers went ashore to confer with the insurgent representatives, and in the course of the afternoon eight representative islanders boarded the *Petrel* to discuss with Commander Cornwell the basis of surrender. At first, they were afraid to go aboard, as they feared they would receive the reception usually accorded by the Spaniards, *i. e.*, that they would be arrested and shot and their property confiscated. For reasons of their own they also desired to retain their arms.

"Commander Cornwell assured them they need be in no fear of bodily harm and told them that the present native Government would be continued in office, subject to his supervision. They were given till 8 a.m., on the following morning to decide whether they would give up the place or stand a bombardment, and went ashore to discuss the American captain's conditions with their followers.

"The foreigners residing in Cebu were afraid that the ilimen would come into the city during the night and sack the place, so the "Petrel" kept landing parties in readiness to afford protection. There was no trouble, however.

"Punctually at eight o'clock in the morning the insurgent representatives went on board the "Petrel," carrying a formal written document surrendering the town. In this communication, they stated that they yielded to "force majeure," and that the surrender must await the action of the President, General Aguinaldo. This of course, was only a matter of form, to "save face." The signatories added that they entered "a protest against the way the Americans waged war in this end of the enlightened nineteenth century."

"Some little anxiety still prevails in the city among the merchant classes, who fear a rising of the mob, and therefore Commander Cornwell holds landing parties in readiness. The tug has been sent back to Iloilo with the good news, and a request has been forwarded to General Otis, the Commander-in-Chief, for a small detachment of troops to police the town and guard against any possible disturbance. The "Kaiserin Augusta" left early in the morning for Manila carrying the news."

It will be seen from the foregoing that the occupation of Cebu was of the most peaceable description, and doubtless other islands will follow the example of Negros and Cebu, leaving the U. S. Government to grapple with the problem of disturbed Luzon. Here

THE PROBLEM IS INDEED A SERIOUS ONE;

but general Otis has a grip of the situation, and with the help of more troops and freedom to concentrate his attentions to the 'smashing' of the rebels, there is no reason why the campaign should not be wound up sooner than most of us imagine. Personally, I still hope for a peaceful solution of the problem. The insurgents may kill and wound a certain number of Americans, but when we consider the resources of the U. S. Government, its financial resources and military possibilities it is impossible for any sane man to imagine that the United States are less capable of conquering the bellige-rent section of the natives of Luzon, than Great Britain was to smash the Mahdi. By their restrain after great provocation the Filipinos earned, and justly earned, the respect and admiration of the civilised world in the brief campaign against the Spanish forces while the U. S. fleet lay in Manila Bay awaiting the arrival of troops. Recently, however, I regret that some cases of mutilation of the American dead have occurred thereby alienating a great deal of the respect for Aguinaldo and his followers, and should there be any more displays of this latent savagery whatever respect the Filipinos still retain will at once go by the board.

The recent incendiarism at Paco, Santa Cruz, Tondo, Binondo and the other suburbs of the city of Manila was part of a deep-laid plot. General Hughes, the Provost Marshall of Manila, for whose untiring vigilance and splendid organisation and powers of endurance under trying circumstances all foreigners entertain the profoundest admiration, has in his possession proofs of the duplicity of a large section of the native community, and it is due to General Otis and General Hughes, and their various subordinate officers, that the city has been saved from total destruction and the foreign residents from a cold-blooded massacre.

At the Provost Marshall's office there lies a document purporting to be signed by Signor Sandico, Aguinaldo's Minister of the Interior and Commander of the Territorial Secret Militia of Manila, in which orders are issued to the members of this organisation to assemble with bolo knives and firearms in a certain district, at a certain hour on a certain day, in order to carry out a slaughter of the whole of the 'white faces.' The document enjoins that only Filipino families are to be respected. They only are to be respected all other residents, whatever their nationality work to be killed without mercy after the American forces of occupation had been exterminated. The document then goes on to tell exactly in what particular districts the men shall rise, the signal for the rising, and other details.

On this particular night, General Hughes succeeded in arresting 125 of the the leaders of the secret organisation thereby nipping in the bud

A VERY SERIOUS MASSACRE.

Had it occurred it would have at once raised the whole of the forces of civilisation against the Philippine section of the Malay race, as did the terrible Mutiny of India forty years ago.

I know Sandico personally, and had formed a very high opinion of his intelligence and good intentions and it is therefore astonishing to me that his name should appear on such a document. In spite of the document and whatever private evidence may be held at Headquarters, I cannot believe that Sandico, or even Aguinaldo, would have preached a war of extermination against foreigners in the Philippines. I do not believe the document emanated from the brain of Aguinaldo or Sandico. As an unbiassed spectator of events in the Philippines, I think it is my duty to record my disbelief in this allegation of brutal savagery amongst the Filipino leaders. Sandico's name must have been used as a means of stirring up the disaffected native element; and in spite of the allegation that the handwriting has been identified as Sandico's I still refuse to believe that my old friend is guilty of the charges made against him, I may be mistaken in my advocacy. It may be that Sandico is no better than the rest of the rebel ranks, but it is in my opinion, an insult to Sandico's intelligence to assert that he issued this bloodthirsty order when he must know perfectly well its successful accomplishment would bring down upon the Filipino cause the execrations of Christendom, and lead to a retaliatory war, if not extermination, at any rate of ruthless prosecution of the leaders and their ultimate execution.

Beyond this, I make no attempt to explain away the document. I have discharged my duty as an impartial observar. There is a danger of this war degenerating into a war of extermination, and it is well that all parties should endeavour to take a dispassionate survey of the actual facts and to assist in bringing about a peaceful settlement along the lines dictated by utilitarian and humanitarian principles. Experience in other Asiatic and semi-civilised countries teaches us that initial hostility does not necessarily imply the extermination of the weaker race. Firmness, combined with gentleness, upright administration and the recognition of native customs, will speedily conquer a race, and bring about peace and contentment, and a return to industry and prosperity.

To-day it became known that the Spanish authorities, through General Rios, had made an offer to Aguinaldo of dols. 500,000 for the release of the Spaniards still held in captivity throughout the Provinces. This offer, it is reported, has been rejected, and a sum of dols. 7,000,000 demanded. How the American authorities allowed the offer of money to be made to the insurgents I have been unable to learn. Unless it was accompanied by a stipulation for the immediate cessation of hostilities, I fail to see how the American authorities could permit money to be paid over to the Filipinos.

Since the incendiary fires of the 22nd inst., the city has been quiet. The order of the Commander-in-Chief to all residents, to remain indoors after 7 p.m., has had a salutary effect in restoring tranquillity.

Occasional skirmishes occur on the fighting line, but there has been no serious fighting.

AMERICA AND THE PHILIPPINES.

HOISTING OF THE AMERICAN FLAG AT NEGROS.

THE DELEGATES AT MANILA.

A Special Correspondent with the U. S. Army writes under date Manila, February 22:—

The U. S. transport Newport, which arrived yesterday from Iloilo, brought up news of the hoisting of the American Flag on the Island of Negros, and also three delegates to confer with General Otis.

The party consists of the President of the Provincial Government, Senor Aniseto Lacson; Senor Eusabio Ruiz de Luzuriaga, Minister of the Treasury; and Senor Jose Ruiz de Luzuriaga, President of the Congress, and their official interpreter—a young gentleman educated in the Victoria English Schools, Hongkong.

The delegates are very favourably impressed with the interview they have had with General Otis, and the beneficial effects of their trip to Manila may have an incalculable bearing on the future of the Philippine Islands.

From a conversation I have had with the party, I was led to believe that the Visayans and the Filipinos are not likely to unite either for the purposes of government in the Philippines or of fighting the American troops. Not only do the people of Negros wish to live at peace with the United States—but they are willing that the U. S. Government should administer the affairs of the country as President McKinley's advisers may think best suited for the people.

After defeating the Spanish garrisons, the people of Negros established a provisional Government on 12th November last, and committed to Captain Glass of the "Charleston" their desire to obtain the protection of the United States. Captain Glass gave the assurance that the communication would be forwarded to the proper quarter.

Hearing of the destruction of Iloilo, the leading citizens of Bacolod—the principal town of Negros, and not Silay as stated in my telegram—decided to despatch the deputation to General Miller. After a conference with General Miller, the delegates returned to Bacolod and hoisted the stars and stripes. All the inhabitants attended, together with the native troops, and a salute of twenty-one guns announced this outward manifestation of the American sovereignty over the Island. The delegates sailed on the same day (February 18) for Manila.

The delegates have assured General Otis that they will co-operate with him loyally and will exert whatever influence they have with the remainder of the Visayan islands to acquiesce in American sovereignty. They expect to share in the local administration; but leave it to the United States to decide details.

Negros is the principal sugar-producing island of the Philippine group. Its estimated acreage is 1,600,000. Its population is given Spanish official records as nearly 300,000 inclusive of 1,000 Chinese.

It is estimated that the total number of houses destroyed by fire in Manila and suburbs since Wednesday, the 22nd inst., to date is—60 stone buildings, 150 substantial wooden buildings with iron roofing, and 8,000 native nipa houses and huts. For the protection of the Consulate, the Banks and business houses, two fire-engine parties of blue-jackets have been ashore from H.M.S. Narissus for a few nights Japanese blue jackets are ready for any emergency at the Jepanese Consulate.

Sir John Lubbock's new natural history book on Buds and Stipules will be published by Messrs. Kegan Paul at the end of the month. A popular history of China, with the title China and her people, is being published by Messrs. Sands and Co. The writer is Mr. Harold E. Gorst. The ninth volume of the Cambridge Natural History will be published to-morrow by Messrs. Macmillan. It treats of birds, and is written by Mr. A. H. Evans, of Clare College. Mr. Edward Spencer, who may be best known by his nom de guerre Nashaniel Gubbins, has written, under the title The Flowing Bowl, a treatise on drinks of all kinds and of all periods, interspersed with sundry anecdotes and reminiscences. Mr. Grant Richards will publish the volume.

The official record of cases of plague in the Punjab since October 1st, 1898, gives the following figures. In the Nawashahr district 59 cases and 29 deaths up to the date of the last published statement, since which date there have been 17 cases and 9 deaths. In the Garhshankar district 1 case and 1 death, and none since the last statement. In the Multan district 1 case and 1 death. This district has also been free since the last statement. In the case of Multan the infection was imported from Bangalore. Garhshankar and Kariam have been declared free from plague.

PRINCIPAL CANDY'S WORK IN KOLHAPUR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

Sir,—Now that the Kolhapur Durbar have parted with one of their best officials, it is but due to him that he should have the meed of praise he has deserved for the signal services he has rendered to the State and her subjects for well nigh a quarter of a century. Mr. Candy went to Kolhapur full of energy and earnestness; and these qualities he brought to bear on his work to the last day that his familiar voice was heard within the walls of Rajaram College. We find the results in the success of his pupils at the recent University examinations. One of them heads the list of the students that passed the last Matriculation. The University has crowned the Kolhapur College and High School with many such honours, but the examinations are not the only test of all the good Mr. Candy did to the youth of Kolhapur. He taught his pupils that the end of all teaching was not in the annual university ordeals, but should be carried through a whole lifetime in the inward improvement of self. He exhorted them not to confine their labours between the covers of their text-books, but to look forth into the wide world of wisdom without. He always aided them with able advice and the student went out from his *alma mater* with a keen yearning for the cultivation of his mental and moral faculties. Principal Candy's interest in his pupils did not flag when they had ceased to sit at his feet; he kept himself in touch with them and was anxious to help them to live in a way worthy of themselves. His culture, his sound practical views on matters of public import, above all his sympathy, rendered it a privilege to claim him as guide, teacher, and friend. Principal Candy's plan of culture meant an all round moulding of the mind. Cricket, tennis, football, rowing, drill, he esteemed as essential elements in the education of the youth, as Milton and Macaulay, Byron and Burke. He can justly be called the father of Kolhapur cricket. It was he who introduced the game, he who infused its "esprit de corps" among them.

When the Rajaram College consisted solely of the Previous class, Principal Candy drew up a scheme for the establishment of a First B. A. class, the teaching of which he arranged to discharge with the same staff of teachers without any additional burden on the State treasury. The scheme was gratefully received by the Council of Administration and the Diwan.

The Dewan, Khan Bahadur Meherjibhoy K. Tarapore walla, C. I. E., was so favourably impressed with Mr. Candy's capacity for organization, that he appointed him president of the executive committees of the Industrial and Scientific Exhibitions held in Kolhapur. In the course of his speech at the opening of the Industrial Exhibition of 1891, Lord Harris referred in special terms to the large share Mr. Candy had had in the success of the exhibition.

In his teaching Principal Candy showed us the grace and charm of the literature of his land. In his character he showed us the strength and the sobriety and the straightforwardness of the English character. It was a character free from the canker of selfishness. His faith in his moral convictions was deeper far than his faith in cheap popularity. He walked erect and fearless in life and bade us walk so. We respected him as our superior and yet we loved him as our friend.

The Hon'ble Mr Justice Candy told us at the prize-giving at St. Xavier's College how for quite half a century his late lamented father had devoted his time and talent to the furtherance of education, I believe it is this inherited interest in the cause of culture that has ensured Mr. Candy's undoubted success as an educational officer and Mr. Justice Candy's unique success as the Vice-Chancellor of an University. Mr. Candy has left Kolhapur after a long career of honest and honourable service, and we trust that better and brighter spheres await him with that reward which such a one richly deserves.—Yours, etc.,

PALMAM QUI MERUIT FERAT.

THE DOWNFALL (?) OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

Sir,—It appears to me rather strange that the Bombayites, whilst sympathising with Calcutta in her wails for the proposed virtual deprivation of her rights and privileges of local self-government, do not see that their own such rights and privileges have long been put in a groove that will drain them out to whirlpools and deep waters. It might appear that the Government of India have "in camera" formulated the policy of strangulating local self government by processes slow and smooth, but steady and effective. The first practical step in carrying out the supposed policy was evidenced in Bombay in the creation of the Plague Committee, that plagued the Bombay Corporation by spending their money with the full liberty given to their actions by the Bombay Government. Plague appears to have been caught at as an occasion both in Bombay and Calcutta. It has been a clear and undeniable fact prominently borne out by results that both the Government and the Corporation were equally wise as to the measures to be adopted against the plague—measures that have been unavailing equally. And yet Government most ill-advisedly and most unnecessarily stepped in, put aside the Corporation from their legitimate and constitutionally assigned business, telling them, as it were, "You can't do. Aside, please. The magic Committee we appoint shall surely stamp the plague out at once."

The spendthrift Plague Committee was nominated on Government's own sole responsibility, and was authorised to spend the Municipal rate-payers' money in any way they liked, with the result that the rich Corporation with a reserve fund of about 17 lakhs of rupees was brought in as many months to impecuniosity. This was the first severe shock given to the very backbone of local self-government in Bombay. This has been succeeded by another measure more dismal, more soul-eating, and far-reaching in its results—the fanciful and harmful Bombay Improvement Trust. The Trust is nothing if not dealing a slow but certain mortal blow to local-self-government. What the Trust can do the Corporation can do with greater care, advantage, and ease But Government are disposed to have the whole hold in their own hands. The Trust is a department of Government just as the Port Trust is a department of Government. Those who want to know somewhat of the extent of the mischief to local self-government by the creation of the Trust may read the brand-new Act. In the whole career of the Corporation extending over nearly thirth years, there could not be found a more stupid, a more stultifying, a more self-condemning resolution than the one they passed in a frenzy in approving of the outlines of a crude and crooked thing that could not be at the time distinguished head from tail. Verily they thus took a leap in the dark, and are, we may be pretty sure, repenting their act of self-condemnation. Posterity will no doubt bless the long-headed Corporation that consented to be slowly poisoned. As the matters, mischiefs, and occasions develop by process of time, as the Trust is progressing to an active and vigorous development, Bombayites will have time enough to remember the old adage, that it is madness in one to go to extinguish the fabulous conflagration in Ceylon neglecting to extinguish the one at his feet.

A serious question very naturally arises from the general gloomy aspect of local self-government in India, whether it is always very safe to advance money on the credit of a Municipal Corporation. The suspicion arises that just as Government, always strongly equipped with an overwhelming and readily obedient majority in the Legislative Council, do, by one stroke of the pen and by one easy push of legislation, anything they like or take in their head to do in spite of reason and public voice, they might similarly one morning disestablish the Municipal Corporation or nullify their rights and privileges (Government generally do not condescend to assign reasons for their action and trying to reason against them is generally and intolerantly stamped as impudence in small matters and characterized as sedition in weighty ones),—and the security of the advanced money of the public would perhaps be jeopardised. One thing may strike one as evident that the Corporation and its rights and privileges are not of an uniformly safe, permanent, and progressive character. It is, I think, time that the Bombayites should see clearly their own position in regard to their own local self-government, watch, and, before it is too late, prevent the blessed and highly expensive Trust from widening the sphere of their influence and work, or encroaching upon the rights and privileges peculiar to local self-government.—Yours, &c.,

SHAPOORJEE SORABJEE

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THE DREYFUS "SYNDICATE."

The extent to which belief in the entirely fictitious "Dreyfus Syndicate" has permeated France can scarcely be realised by English readers. The credulity of the French in this matter is astounding, and according to Mr. J. Maxse, in the "National Review" folly will carry otherwise sane men to any lengths. This wealthy and mysterious organisation, it now appears, had a good deal to do with the sudden death of President Faure: To "La Patrie," an evening paper of large circulation in Paris, which, like the majority of French papers of large circulation, is studiously ignored abroad, belongs the credit of having prepared the ground for this particular plant. It informed its readers, a few weeks ago, that Lord Rosebury and Mr. Cecil Rhodes had arrived in Paris in order to furnish the Dreyfus Syndicate with the sinews of war for the campaign which that phantom board is supposed to be conducting against the prestige of France on behalf of British interests.

The Frenchman (Mr. Maxse continues) is predisposed to credit whatever he sees in print, and the chief fact that has been dinned into him during the last two years with regard to the Dreyfus case is that the whole agitation is due to the machinations of a syndicate, of which the principal shareholders are Jews and Englishmen. France is thoroughly possessed with this idea—indeed, it would probably be no overstatement to say that this syndicate is about the only institution which has any reality for the average Frenchman. He is sceptical about most otherthings. Then at a certain moment he learns from a trusted organ—"La Patrie"—that two eminent and wealthy Englishmen, who are admitted in Paris at the same time, a suffisiently suspicious coincidence in itself have replenished the cofers of of the syndicate. That sinister body is now, there, in funds. It may be expected to redouble its activity. At any moment it may manifest its power by striking a further blow on behalf of "the traitor." A heavy and wholly unforseen blow falls. President Faure, one of the pillars of Dreyfus's condemnation, suddenly collapse and dies while in the apparent enjoyment of perfect health, leaving his confederates and his cause in the utmost consternation and confusion. Advantage is immediately taken of this crisis by the enemy to elect a new President, who, being uncompromised and uncommitted, might conceivably act with independence. Is it not clear that such a catastrophe must have been engineered by the syndicate? Our neighbours have recently ascertained that the

SYNDICATE HAS BOUGHT UP FRANCE'S ALLY,

Russia, and that owing to its diabolical intrigues the Dual Alliance is trembling in the balance. To the "Eclair," one of the chief organs of the French head-quarter staff, and the favoured mouthpiece of the late Colonel Henry—forger and hero—belongs the principal credit for this portentous revelation. Desiring to discover the state of foreign public opinion upon the Dreyfus case, the *Eclair* despatched a correspondent, M. Andre Cheradame, who is a good linguist and was formerly in the service of the French Colonial Office, on a tour abroad. M. Cheradame appears to have undertaken his pilgrimage in a spirit of impartiality, and to have excuted it with thoroughness and accuracy. It is superfluous to say that in the other countries he visits, such as Germany and Austria, M. Cheradame finds public opinion in precisely the same condition as in Russia. These observers all agree that Europe is Dreyfusard, and that this universal sentiment has struck a disastrous blow at the prestige of France. Instead of pausing to consider whether it be not possible for Europe to be in the right and the French War Office in the wrong, recourse is had to our old friend to solve the whole mystery. The French army is the object of a deep-laid plot which ramifies all over the world.

AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PLOT

it need hardly be said, is to be found—the syndicate It is the syndicate which has poisoned the mind of the Russian professor; the syndicate perverts the intelligence of the Russian manufacturer; the syndicate keeps the Russian traveller from his pillow; the syndicate so embitters the little children of Russia that they cause French journalists to weep. Germany and Austria have alike fallen victims to the syndicate. America is its tool. In fact, the all-conquering syndicate has enslaved the civilised world. England, of course, is quite as much at the bottom of the whole business as the Jews:—The *Eclair* inquires: "Should the direction of this campaign be attributed to the Israelites alone?" And the answer is "No!" According to both *Journal* and *Eclair*, England is the guilty party. She has corrupted the world. It is beyond all possible probable shadow of doubt—all possible doubt whatever. Does it not admit of easy demonstration? In the words of the *Eclair*, "Si l'on doute qu'on se souvienne des six mois qui ont precede Fashoda." England is apparently as wise as she is wicked. She foresaw six months beforehand that Major Marchand would be found at Fashoda on the morrow of the victory of Omdurman, so she set to work early last year—*via* the syndicate—to convince Europe of Dreyfus's innocence in order that France might find herself isolated in her hour of trouble.

HOW THE GUNS FOUGHT AT OMDURMAN.

The last issue of the "Proceedings of the Royal Artillery Institution" contains some very interesting particulars as to the performances of the 5in. howitzers which wrecked the Mahdi's tomb at Omdurman, this being the first occasion on which high explosives have been fired in actual warfare. These weapons fire a shell weighing 50lb., and in those used at Omdurman the bursting charge was 4lb. 140z. of lyddite. The new shell now supplied, however, contains 9lb 150z. of this explosive, and has been proved to be still more effectual than its predecessor. The latter is 3·2 calibres long, whilst the new shell is 3·65 calibres in length. In Egypt the gun was "horsed" by eight mules, the weight hauled being 45cwt., inclusive of two rounds of case over and above the proper equipment of the gun. These mules were fitted with pack saddles, so that once the guns were in position the team could be used for bringing up the ammunition, one mule being able to carry four shells or two boxes of cartridges. With this arrangement for transport, a good fire could, it was stated, be maintained, even when the ammunition base was as much as two miles from the gun. The cartridge used is loaded with cordite, and the charge can be varied with great case. This is often necessary (says *Engineering*), though it was not done at Omdurman, owing to the fact that the direct-action fuse, with which the shell is fitted, will not act with certainty unless fired at an angel of 10 deg., the range with the full charge being then 2000 yards. At Omdurman the ranges varied from 3200 yards down to 1250 yards, the former requiring an elevation of 18 deg., and the latter one of 6 deg. At the shorter range there were some blinds, the shell failing to explode. The new shells are, it was announced, to be fitted with a fuse which burst on graze. The difficulty in arranging this lies in securing the safety of the gun detachment in case of "prematures" in the gun. This difficulty has now it seems, been surmounted, and the shells will burst on striking horizontal ground after being fired from an elevation of 2 deg. only.

The fuze actually used at Omdurman, though failing in the respect named, proved in other respects very satisfactory, and the detachment were able to stand up to the gun with as much confidence as if firing common shell. The hole blown in the dome of the Mahdi's tomb by the shells measured 20ft. in height by 12ft. in width, the walls being 2½ft. thick. Single shells again blew holes through the citadel walls, which were 12ft. to 20ft. high, 6ft. thick at the bottom, and 4½ft. at the top. The gunboats were able to fire down the main street through one of the holes thus made. In some cases, with walls only 1ft. thick, the shell got through without bursting; the moral effect then seems to have been very great. The space covered by the fragments of shell in bursting is very large, and General Brackenbury stated that with an 8in. howitzer at Okehampton a fragment of shell, which had burst 2000 yards away, came back amongst the gun detachment.

Mr. Horace Cox will have ready in a week or two an enlarged edition of the non-sporting division of Rawdon B. Lee's "Modern Dogs of Great Britain and Ireland," brought up to date. The next volume in Messrs. Innes's Isthmian Library of sporting books will be "Hockey." It is written by Mr. Nicholson Smith, of the Hockey Association, and hon. sec. Kent County H. A., and Mr. Philip A. Robson, with special chapters contributed by various writters. Mr. Robson, who is an architect, has himself made several plants for the volume, which will probably appear in March.—A "History of the East Kent Volunteers" is to be published this month from the "Kentish Express" Office, Ashford. The author, Mr. Charles Iggiesden, traces the development of the volunteer force in Kent from its inauguration towards the close of the last century to the present day.—Mr. J. W. Tutt, the author of a large work on moths, is now engaged on another, in which he will deal with butterflies. The first volume is about to be published by Messrs. Swan Sonnenschein.

MR. KIPLING AND THE AMERICAN REPORTER.

An American contemporary publishes an amusing account of an interview which a Chicago reporter says he had with Mr. Rudyard Kipling some time since:—"I was sent down to Kipling's hotel to pick a bit of talk out of him when he first struck Chicago, on his way from San Francisco to New York. He wasn't quite such a big gun then as he is now, but he was big enough. Kipling put up at the Richelieu, and I sent my card up to him about seven o'clock in the evening. After about five minutes a young man wearing a very baggy suit of clothes and the bummest black Derby hat I ever saw got off the elevator and shambled into the hotel lobby. I knew the young man was Kipling. He looked about the same than as he does now—same bulldog, Rock-of-Gibraltar jaw, stubby moustache, searching eyes, and general look of slouchiness. He had my card in his hand as he entered the hotel lobby. He seemed to regard the card as a great curiosity. He examined it from all points of view, walked over to the window-front of the hotel and scrutinised it from top to bottom; held it out at arm's length, and seemed to have all kinds of difficulty in arriving at a determination what the deuce the card meant. I walked over to where he was fumbling with the card at the window-front.

"'Mr. Kipling?' I said. He turned upon me sharply. He looked me in the eyes. Then he lowered his eyes to my feet and began a slow study of me from my shoes up. When his eyes finally reached the point of my chin he looked at my twisted card in his hand, and said in a short, choppy voice: 'U'm—what if I am? I don't know you. Did you send me this card?' I admitted the soft impeachment. 'I am just after being hurtled down here by my city editor to find out what you think about the world, the flesh, and the devil,' I said. 'Go ahead. Let's have it. Any old thing you say will do.' Kipling's rugged countenance was momentarily crossed by a very boyish, fetching grin. 'You're a pretty cheeky sort, aren't you?' he inquired, not quite so choppily as he had spoken before 'What does your city editor or anybody else suppose that I know about the devil, the flesh, or the world? I'm only six-and-twenty—a kid; a kid in England, at any rate, where precocity, instead of being at a premium, as it seems to be over here, is a social vice. "The world, the flesh, and the devil?" Haven't you got any hoary patriarchs here to whom you can put that question?'

"'Stews of 'em' "I replied. 'But they haven't written books about the doings of Mulvaney, Ortheris, and Learoyd. That stuff of yours is pretty good—that is, it isn't half bad. You're of the improving sort, I think, and you'll probably do some very decent work later on, when you get next to yourself. Kipling took off dis spectacles, wiped them with his pocket handkerchief, re-adjusted them, and looked me through for fully a minute before he spoke. 'I say,' he said then, 'you're a confounded impertinent sort of a cove, aren't you? What the deuce do you mean? It's solacing to run across a man who's devised of pure gall—it's novel, I mean. What do you want me to say?'

"'How do you like what you've seen of this country, anyhow?' I asked him, to make a switch in the line of talk. 'I like it in spots,' he replied. 'What difference does it make whether I like it or not?' 'Lots,' I said. 'We want to be approved. We strive to please. We desire to be patted on the back. Go on and pat us on the back some more. I'll take it down in shorthand.' 'I wish you'd go away and let me alone,' said Kipling. 'If I was working for a salary, instead of writing on space, I'd oblige you, for this isn't any joke with me,' said I. 'Tell me some things about American soldiers, what you've seen of them.' 'They're a blooming fine lot your soldiers are,' said Kipling, looking interested. 'They are crack men—way-up men—the horse outfits especially. I've visited about a dozen posts and I'd like to have spent a month at each of 'em. I imagine it must be fine work, soldiering down there in Arizona.' 'Nice work,' said I. 'I often long to be back at old San Carlos. I put in three years as a buck private in one of the troops down there.'

"'Well, that's how I got Kipling—because I had soldiered; and if there's one thing interests Kipling more than another, it's soldiering. His homely phiz lit up when I mentioned that soldiering incident in my tumultuous career, and for three-quarters of an hour he sat there in the window-front of the Hotel Richelieu and talked over the military end of it in a clever, luminous, sketchy way that was full of meat. He told me all about the American military posts he had visited, comparing our soldiers with the men who compose the British outfits, and—well, it made over two columns of tiptop stuff. When I rose to take my leave of Kipling I said: 'Now, don't forget—whenever you write something that you think is really good, just send me along a batch of advance proofs, and I'll give you a stick or two of notice in my paper, if I approve of the stuff and consider it up to the mark.' Kipling simply glared at me amusingly out of his shrewed eyes, said something that sounded like 'Impudent whelp!' and I went away to write my interview."

THEORY OF THE FLAMING SWORD.

"Ah, talk of blessing! What a blessing is digestion! To digest. Do you know what it means? It is to have the sun always shining and the shade always ready for you. It is to be met by smiles and greeted with kisses. It is to hear sweet sounds, to sleep with pleasant dreams, to be touched every by gentle, soft, cool hands. It is to be in Paradise.

"There came a great indigestion upon the earth and it was called a deluge. All the evil comes from this. Macbeth could not sleep; it was the supper, not the murder. His wife talked and talked; it was the supper again. Milton had a bad digestion, and Carlyle must have had the worst digestion in the world. Ah! to digest is to be happy!"

There!—how does that strike you for a burst of eloquence? I quote from Trollope. If there is anything wrong about the theology you must hold him responsible. As for its physiology and pathology (pardon all these "ologies" I can answer for the correctness of these two. And so can millions of people besides me. They speak of the curse of indigestion continually in every language; they groan and write under it in every land and climate.

"For many years," says one of this innumerable army of martyrs, "I was obliged to bear as best I could the torments of indigestion. My appetite was practically destroyed. I ate, of course, because one must eat or die! but after meals I had great pain at the chest and around the sides.

"Sleep almost forsook my pillow, and naturally I was tired and exhausted. Sometimes better and then worse, but never free from pain and illness. I lived on with little or no hope of getting well. It is hardly necessary to say that I had medical treatments, et no real benefit resulted from it. Happily at this time Mother Seigel's Syrup was brought to my notice, and so strongly commended that I laid aside other medicines, which were doing me no good, and began using this one only.

"In a short time I realised a great improvement; food agreed with me and I gained strength. A little later—contining to take the Syrup regularly as directed—the pains at the stomach, sides and chest wholly ceased, and I have not felt them since. My indigestion was cured at last, and I enjoyed the blessing of health. My son, who suffered severely from rheumatism has been relived by Mother Seigel's Syrup as by nothing else he ever tried. In gratitude I give you full permission to publish my letter should you desire." (Signed) (Mrs.) Ann Baker, Field Lane, Braughing, Ware, Herts. Oct. 7th 1893.

It was a fortunate circumstance for Mrs. Sarah Gell of Melchbourne, Bedfordshire, that one day, she had a personal talk with Mr. Smith, the butcher at Rushden. He told the lady that in his opinion if she went on suffering from indigestion and asthma (one of its consequences) it would be because she neglected to use Mother Seigel's Syrup. "And," said Mr. Smith, "I speak from knowledge." She had been ill with this abominable ailment for many years, and had spent time and money in unavailing efforts to obtain relief.

Acting on Mr. Smith's advice, Mrs. Gell began using this remedy at once, and tells the outcome in a letter of which we have room for the conclusion only:—

"I was better almost immediately, and was soon as well and healthy as one could wish to be. Now I keep 'Mother Seigel' in the house and it never fails to help us when needed for any passing complaint."

(Signed)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ORDERS.

(*Gazette of India*, March 25.)

HOME DEPARTMENT.

Mr F J Monahan, of the Indian Civil Service, Offg Secy to the Chief Commissioner of Assam, is confirmed as such, with effect from the 22nd Dec 1898.

The Govr Genl in Council is pleased to appoint the Hon Mr Justice Rampini to be President of the Board of Examiners Calcutta, vice the Hon Mr Justice O'Kinealy who has resigned the appointment.

The services of Lt W J Niblock, M B, B Ch, I M S, Madras, were placed temporarily at the disposal of the Govt of Madras, on the 11th Feb, 1899.

Major C J Dennys, I C S, Cantt Magte of Peshwar, is granted furlough under Article 353 b, of the Civil Service Regulations, for one year, with effect from the 11th April.

The services of the Rev W L P Shaw, a Chaplain on the Bengal, Lucknow, Ecclesiastical Estabt, are replaced at the disposal of the Govt of the N-W Provinces and Oudh.

Mr C H Candy is appointed to be Director of Public Instruction, Hyderabad Assigned Dists, in succession to Mr Sitaram Vishwanath Patwardhan. ✍

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.

Mr E Maconochie, I C S, Under Secy to the Govt of India in the Dept of Revenue and Agriculture, is granted privilege leave for one month and nine days, with effect from the forenoon of the 27th March.

Mr S C Hill, Officer in charge of the Records of the Govt of India and ex-officio Asst Secy to the Govt of India in the Home Dept, is appointed to discharge the functions of Secretary under the Inventions and Designs Act of 1888, vice Mr G W Forrest on furlough.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

Capt C A Kemball, I S C, Political Assistant of the 1st and temporary addition Political Agent of the 1st class and Political Agent in Jhalawar, is granted furlough for eight months, under article 340 (p) (i) of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 25th March, 1899, or the subsequent date on which he may avail himself of the furlough.

Capt H L Showers, I S C, a Political Asst of the 2nd (offg 1st) class, and Political Agent in Southern Baluchistan, is granted special leave for six months, under article 348 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 10th April, 1899, or the subsequent date on which he may avail himself of the leave.

Capt R B Berkeley, I S C, a Political Asst of the 3rd (offg 2nd) class, and Asst to the Agent to the Govr Genl in Baluchistan, is granted special leave for six months, under article 348 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 22nd April, 1899, or the subsequent date on which he may avail himself of the leave.

Lieut-Col Sir G S Robertson, K C S I, I M S (Bengal), a Political Agent of the 1st class and Political Officer with Sardar Ayub Khan, is granted special leave for six months, under article 348 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 15th April, 1899, or the subsequent date on which he may avail himself of the leave.

The undermentioned officer is granted leave to proceed out of India, on private affairs, under the leave rules for the Staff Corps; the specified period to count from the date of being struck off duty:—Capt H D Watson, I S C, Inspecting Officer, Punjab Imperial Service Infty, for six months and Pension Service, 15th year, commenced 7th Feb 1899.

Lieut S R Davidson, I S C, Asst Inspecting Officer, is appointed to officiate as Inspecting Officer, Punjab Imperial Service Infantry, in addition to his own duties, with effect from the date of assuming charge and during the absence on leave of Capt H D Watson or until further orders.

Capt W G Walker, I S C, Asst Inspecting Officer, Rajputana Imperial Service Infantry, officiated as Inspecting Officer, Rajputana Imperial Service Infantry, in addition to his own duties, from the 1st to the 14th Dec 1898, both days inclusive.

Capt S A Pearse, 17th Madras Infy, was employed on plague duty in the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore from the 14th Dec 1898, to the 14th Feb.

Mr J K Batten, of the Indian Civil Service, Madras Estab, is appointed to be a Depy Commissioner of the 2nd class, and to officiate as Civil and Sessions Judge in the Hyderabad Assigned Dists, with effect from the date of assuming charge.

Capt C T Ducat, I S C Offg First Assistant to the Govr Genl's Agent at Baroda, was in charge of the office of the Cantt Magte at Baroda, in addition to his own duties, from the 26th Feb to the 9th March, 1899, both days inclusive.

Capt R D Broome, I S C, Wing Commander, 9th Regt of Bo Infy, is appointed to be Cant Magte of the Cant of Baroda, in addition to his Military duties, with effect from the 10th March, 1899, and until further orders.

The undermentioned officer is granted furlough out of India—Lieut-Col D W K Barr, C S I, I S C, a resident of the 1st class, and Agent to the Govr Genl in Central India, for six months, under rule IX of the Furlough Regulations of 1892.

Lieut-Col W H C Wyllie, C I E, I S C, a Resident of the 2nd class and Resident in the Western States of Rajputana, is appointed to officiate as a Resident of the 1st class and Agent to the Govr Genl in Central India, with effect from the date of assuming charge and during the absence on furlough of Lieut-Col D W K Barr, C S I, or until further orders.

LEAVE AND APPOINTMENTS.

Mr W J F Williamson, Asst Accountant Genl and Inspr of Local Fund Accounts, Madras, is granted privilege leave for 31 days, with effect from the 6th April, 1899.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Mr J G Maclean, Traffic Inspr, continued to officiate as Assistant Traffic Supnt, N W Railway, up to the afternoon of the 16th Dec. 1898.

Mr W H P Sherman, Chief Engr, 3rd class, State Railway, on furlough, is permitted to retire from the service.

Mr F B Wathen, Transhipment Supt, is appointed to officiate as Asst Traffic Supt, Eastern Bengal State Railway, until further orders.

Mr R W Rowland, Ex Engr, 3rd grade, Punjab, was permitted to retire from the service, with effect from the afternoon of the 11th Feb, 1899, under Article 712, Civil Service Regulations.

Mr E W Oates, Supt'g Engr, 1st class, Burma, is permitted to retire from the service, with effect from the afternoon of the 12th March, 1899, under Article 712 (c) of the Civil Service Regulations.

Mr D B Horn, Supt'g Engr, 3rd class, Bengal, is appointed to officiate as Chief Engr and Secy to that Govt in the Public Works Dept, Irrigation Branch, with effect from the forenoon of the 9th March, 1899, during the absence on privilege leave of Col A D McArthur, R E, or until further orders.

Mr K H Stephen, Ex Engr, 1st grade, Bengal, is appointed to officiate as a Supt'g Engr, vice Mr D B Horn.

Mr E C Trotter, Depy Examiner of Accounts, is transferred from the office of the Examiner, Public Works Accounts, Bengal, to that of the Examiner, Telegraph Accounts.

The services of Mr H G Billings, Ex Engr, 3rd grade, are replaced at the disposal of the Govt of Burma.

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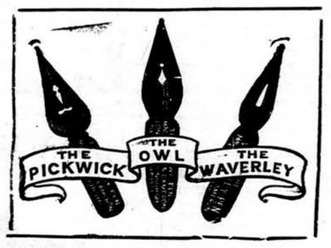

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AUTHORITATIVE ANALYSIS.

"CHEMICAL LABORATORY, 54, Holborn Viaduct, London. January 18th, 1888. I hereby certify that I have submitted to a careful examination and chemical analysis, a sample purchased by myself from the stock of a well-known firm of wholesale druggists, of the preparation known as 'Koko for the Hair.' I have found nothing in this preparation which could be injurious either to the head or hair, and the results of the analysis lead me to pronounce 'Koko for the Hair' a pleasant dressing, which would undoubtedly be advantageous in many cases. I discovered in the preparation no ingredients of the nature of a colouring matter or dye.

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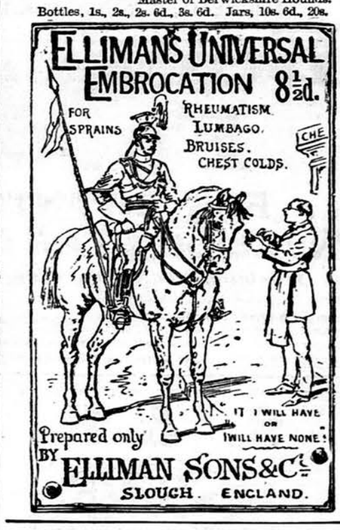

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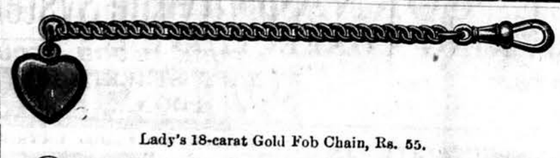

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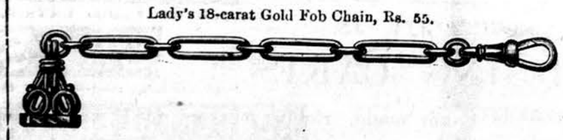

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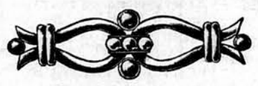

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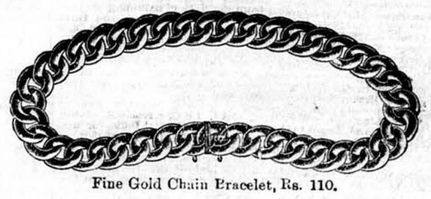

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